

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee,

My name is Michael Bowman.

I am a resident of Cuyahoga Falls in Summit County, and I am vehemently opposed to H.J.R 6.

Let's cut the crap and get right to it - Secretary Frank Larose has heard the same rumors you and I have - that reproductive rights advocates in Ohio plan to soon introduce a ballot initiative to put in front of voters with hopes of enshrining the right to an abortion into the state constitution or similar. This is not unlike the referendums/issues that 5 other states had before voters in the 2022 midterms.

Allow me to be the one to remind you that every one of the states voted to protect the right to an abortion.

You and I both know that H.J.R 6 is no less than another attempt to consolidate power by power-hungry politicians - Republicans - who have already rigged our state maps, poisoned our State Supreme Court with right-wing hacks, and now aim to block off the last remaining thread of citizen power in the state of Ohio by requiring a 60% supermajority for any citizen-led ballot initiative. And please spare me the feeble attempt at "fair-game" with the change on December 2nd to also require legislator-led initiatives to require a 60% supermajority - newsflash, you rigged the maps so that you already have that.

H.J.R 6 is a disgusting reflection of the lack of control that Sec. Larose and his republican colleagues in the state of Ohio have. They are intoxicated with power and will stop at nothing until they have complete control. Sec. Larose and Rep. Stewart should be ashamed but I can see that would be a lot to ask of them.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this dangerous resolution.