

Testimony of Kathy Smytkowski in support of HJR 1

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairwoman John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the Committee:

I Live in Euclid, Ohio, House District 11. I am a 60 years old Banking Professional and all of us citizens need your help. I am going to keep this short and to the point:

The States created the federal government via the constitution, and the federal government's purpose is to serve the needs of the states.

We are the United STATES of America, not the federal government of America. I say this as a "pep" talk to motivate you into action!

It is your solemn duty to place limitations on the federal government. The times we are in, demand action from you. Article V is the state's obligation to be used to keep the federal government in check. Please pass HJR 1 and join with the other "Several States" in proposing amendments.

NOW is the time. Allowing congress to serve for life is quite Un-American and not representative government. 80% of all Americans want term limits on Congress.

We need fiscal restraints, and clearer language via constitutional amendments to restrain federal overreach.

Clearly the majority of the power of government is in the states' hands, where We The People live. We are horrified to watch a group of elitists manage to take power away from the states and, in tyrannical fashion, concentrate it in the hands of the federal government. The founders of this country gave us the ability to correct this improper balance of power that they suspected could eventually happen—Article V of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Thank you for your service to Ohio and for this opportunity to address the committee.