

Testimony of Jayne Murphy in support of HJR No. 1

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairwoman John, Ranking Member Kelly and members of the Committee, my name is Jayne Murphy and I am a wife, mother, and home educator from Hamilton county, House District 29.

I am proud of my husband. When we met, 27 years ago, he had recently left a comfortable position as a system's analyst to start a small business. I admired his courage. I knew many people who dreamed of changing careers or starting a business. But Paul had the determination to make that happen. Following the "American dream" narrative; he sacrificed, worked hard, used his God-given talents and creativity to grow a successful business that now provides a livelihood for five households. Thanks to his fortitude I have been able to use my abilities as we felt best for our family, and by extension the good of society. We have raised five children on one income with me as their home educator. It has been a blessing.

Recently, my husband's confidence as a business owner has been drained due to the everchanging complexity of tax laws. He has contemplated giving up the business he loves because fear of "missing something" keeps him up nights. A revenue department from a neighboring state has come fishing for taxes. Why? Because governments - federal, state, and local are offering more and more "free" services. Nothing is truly free. The money comes from somewhere and that somewhere is from us – the overly trusting American workers. Our household lives on a budget. The government doesn't. It is not just. We have wondered if we can continue to live on one income or if I will have to get work outside the home for the sole purpose of paying taxes. Which, of course, will generate MORE TAXATION.

As a Civics teacher, I have spent several years reading, rereading, and explaining the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America. The crushing burden of taxes we live under was NOT in the plan our Founding Father's put forth. They outlined freedom FROM government oppression. They advocated subsidiarity - local decisions made by the people they effect - an understanding that 'one size does NOT fit all'. And in their wisdom, the Founding Father's provided protection for the people should human nature's lust for power cause the checks and balances they put into place to fail. The hope they provided is found in Article V of the Constitution. When the people are no longer being represented in Congress they can and should hold a Convention of States to keep the federal government in check. When intelligent, hardworking citizens can't follow the disconcerting tax code, when governments are practicing extortion, it is time to hold a Convention of States and return balance to a broken system. Please support HJR 1 and pass it on to the House for a full vote. Article V is in the Constitution for a time such as this when the hardworking citizens of our state and the country need to be heard.

Thank you for your service to our state. I am grateful for the amazing system of government we have that allows us all to participate together in creative problem solving.

Sincerely,

Jayne Murphy

Friday, January 7, 2022