

**Testimony before the**  
**Ohio House of Representatives**  
**State and Local Government Committee**

Hearing on H. J. R. No. 1

December 30, 2021

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

I am Dave Bennett, a retired geologist/mining engineer resident of Bolivar, Ohio and House District 98. The Honorable Brett Hillyer is my Representative. I have degrees from Kent State University and Arizona State University. I have been employed in both the copper and coal industries. I also have owned an environmental consulting business. I have been a volunteer District Captain for the Convention of States since March 2021.

I present this testimony:

I've been voting since 1960 with the hope that the country would get better. It hasn't. We've lost more freedom and liberty and it's now happening at an accelerated pace.

I worry about the future of my children (two daughters one step-daughter) and my five grandchildren. In their lifetime, I've watched their freedom and liberties decrease. I feel responsible because I stood by while the schools quit teaching Civics and the history of the US Constitution. We are a Constitutional Republic with democratic representation and not a democracy. And we have a generation or two that don't understand what this means. We must take our schools systems back and restore it to the states and local government and parental control, away from the Washington bureaucrats.

The national debt is out of control. Yet, there hasn't been a viable proposal to amend the US Constitution fix the problem. A baby born today owes more money to the government than the average person earns in a year. Continuation of this practice will eventually cause financial failure, worthless money and a situation worse than the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. The tax laws are regressive, immoral and full of loopholes for special interests.

It's obvious that congress can't control itself. The system has corrupted our representatives. Professional bureaucrats have more power than any of us realize. We will never be able to vote our way out of this morass and good intentions don't produce good affects.

It's going to take a Convention of States to limit the governments overreach into our lives, put term limits on the congress and professional bureaucrats and restore fiscal responsibility to the nation. The Ohio legislators need to take bak their control. We the people can get this done.

For these reasons I ask the Committee to please support HJR 1 and pass it to the House for a full vote. Thank you for your service to the citizens of Ohio and for allowing me to testify.