

## A Personal Testimony of Mr. Steve Bergin in Support of HJR No.1

To the Ohio House S&LG Committee Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairwoman John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the committee :

I am a Columbus Firefighter as well as the Owner of Bergin Painting Co. I live in Hilliard and have been a live-long resident of Ohio. I adamantly support the calling of a Convention of States. As a citizen of the great state of Ohio, I am gravely concerned about the direction that the Federal government has chosen. It has begun to attempt to strip away our guaranteed personal rights and if unchecked will not only deny our rights, but also the rights of future generations of Americans.

As a gun owner and Christian, I am very dismayed about Washington's infringements on the Bill of Rights. Of special concern is the powers enumerated in the 10th Amendment. The Federal government is confused about its delegated powers. It is completely ignoring its power to protect our borders and to practice fiscal responsibility, while usurping from the states powers that are not delegated to it like election reform and education.

There are many other issues that Washington has screwed up...immigration, term limits, welfare, balanced budget, COVID, Windfall Elimination (I'm a firefighter), to name a few. It especially gripes me to witness special treatment given to illegal immigrants. They are receiving benefits that are reserved for citizens of the United States ONLY! While undeserving people are getting these benefits, the federal government is taking \$480 monthly from my Social Security check and calling that a "Windfall Elimination"!! It's an insult and a horrible penalty to lay on public servants.

Washington needs to be REIGNED IN.

I urge the committee members on the House Committee to approve HJR No.1 so Ohio can join the fight to protect ALL Americans' rights given to us by the Constitution and our Creator God!!