



# Youngstown Warren Black Caucus

P.O. Box 51 • Youngstown, Ohio 44501 — 330.727.5758 • 330.507.2154

*President*  
Jaladah Aslam

*Vice President*  
Marshall Coney

*Treasurer*  
Celestine Glenn

*Secretary*  
Erica Avery

*Legislative Officers*  
Brenda Kimble  
Charlene Allen

*Parliamentarian*  
DeMaine Kitchen

April 16, 2023

The Honorable Phil Plummer, Chairman  
House Constitutional Resolutions Committee  
77 S. High Street; 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

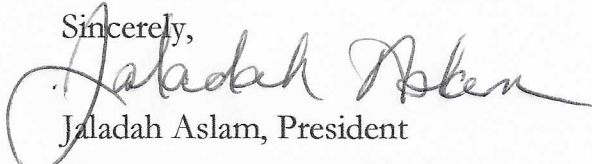
Dear Chairman Plummer,

The members of the Youngstown Warren Black Caucus are strongly opposed to HJR 1 and we urge the members of your committee to vote no on advancing the proposal out of committee to a floor vote of the Ohio House of Representative. We ask that this letter be entered as written testimony in opposition to the resolution.

Since 1912, Ohioans have had the right to vote on amendments to our state constitution. The outcome of those votes, like all other votes in our state's history, has been decided by the majority of those participating in that election. If passed, this resolution would mean that a minority of voters, 41%, would have authority over a majority of voters, 59%, based on the threshold of 60% for approval. Not only is that undemocratic, but it also seems like a political apartheid system.

We elect candidates to office and vote on issues based on the American concept of the majority rules. We have always had a fair system of one person, one vote, majority wins. That is how we elect governors, state senators and representatives, and all other offices. That is how it should remain on all issues before the voters. Do the right thing. Vote no on HJR 1.

Sincerely,

  
Jaladah Aslam, President  
Youngstown Warren Black Caucus