

HARAMBEE YOUTH ORGANIZATION  
I Lynnette Miller  
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Representative  
The Ohio Statehouse  
77 South High Street, 13th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Greetings to Representatives

My name is I Lynnette Miller and I am the founder and coordinator of the Harambee Youth Group in Youngstown, Ohio. We have been in existence for more than 40 years and have impacted the lives of thousands upon thousands of young people. We have a youth group of more than 200 young people with a mandatory parental group participation. We are an African dance troupe and youth group focusing on song, dance, pride, self-esteem, and love of family, community, nation, and humanity. Besides dance and self, we talk about responsibility, productivity, citizenship, and support of our country.

One of the things we include in our curriculum is an emphasis on change and improvement which encompasses public service and social action. We are committed to confronting social and political challenges that face all Americans. In keeping with those values that we believe in, I am writing. I have a grave concern about jr1 and sjr2. This bill in our opinion is absurd. With the current gerrymandering and unfair districts maps present in Ohio, ballot initiatives are currently, our only recourse. A passage of 60% has rarely occurred and it alleviates one man one vote. This is sadly unfair, unjust, and does not represent the needs and concerns of most people in my community. In fact, this law tends to disenfranchise and hurt the black, brown, and poor communities in Ohio. **WE ARE OPPOSED TO THIS LAW AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER ALL OF PEOPLE IN OHIO AND VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL.**

Again, we hope that you will look at all of the people in Ohio, so that everyone's voice is valuable, and support the Democratic Ideals of this Great country. Our Democracy is on the line. **JOIN US TO SAVE IT.**

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter and I would like this letter entered as testimony in the committee.

Sincerely,

I Lynnette Miller  
Harambee Youth Organization  
Youngstown, Ohio