

Testimony on HJ 1

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Submitted by:

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The Ohio House Constitutional Resolution Committee; Rep. Phil Plummer.

Thank you for allowing my written testimony in opposition to House Joint Resolution 1.

This resolution is a slap in the face to all Ohio voters. It is an obvious power grab by those in power at the Statehouse. This should outrage all Ohio voters as it would make it harder for issues to get onto the ballot by requiring signature collection in all 88 counties and removing the "cure period" after signatures are turned in when a campaign is allowed to go back out and collect more to try to make up for a shortfall. HJR1 and SJR 2 would also require a 60% Yes vote to pass a constitutional amendment.

Why are you making it harder for the citizens of Ohio to speak their mind? Maybe if you would listen to ALL your constituents, we wouldn't have to change the constitution. Don't you believe in Democracy? In my over 70 years as an Ohio resident, I have never seen such repressive, dictatorial politicians. According to Thomas Suddes' recent article in the Columbus Dispatch, Republicans run all branches of government due to gerrymandering and this is an attempt to gag Ohio's voters who are paying for the GOP's repressive antics.

In Frank LaRose's article, "All it takes to ratify an amendment is a well-funded dishonest political campaign and a simple majority vote". Nothing could be **further** from the truth.

I could make better use of my time than spending all my waking hours getting signatures to stop women from dying. Women have the right to bodily autonomy and doctors have the right to counsel them. Most important of all, the voters have a right to amend the Ohio Constitution.

STOP THE STEAL. This resolution is unpopular in Ohio as were similar proposals in both Arkansas and South Dakota that were handily defeated. Is that what you are afraid of????

Many Ohio Politicians are disrespected and this political stunt will further infuriate the populace.