

As an Ohio voter, I oppose HJR1, because it is unfair to Ohio citizens and undemocratic.

For decades, Ohioans have used ballot initiatives, which allow us to have a voice in determining our state's direction. The Ohio ballot initiative has always required the approval of a majority of voters for it to pass, which, by the way, is an enormous task. This is democratic. What is undemocratic is HJR1, which requires a 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment. This means that no longer would the majority rule, but a minority of 41%, can block an initiative that the majority want.

With my written testimony I'm speaking up for myself and other Ohioans. We want to protect our freedom to determine our future and the freedom to make decisions that affect our lives. Ballot initiatives let us exercise that freedom.

I'm asking that you protect the interests of all Ohioans, by voting no on HJR1 and by not passing this bill out of Committee.