



**OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION**  
Of the  
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices  
Of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry  
AFL-CIO  
**OhioPipeTrades.com**

**Testimony of the Ohio State Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters  
Before the House Committee on Constitutional Resolutions  
In Opposition to Senate Joint Resolution 2**

Chairman Plummer, Vice-Chair Hillyer, Ranking Member Mohamed, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SJR 2.

The Ohio State Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters have always valued our friendship and professional relationship with the Ohio legislature. On a personal level, we have enjoyed working with you and respect your dedication to public service, and your commitment to doing what is best for all of Ohio.

Recently, our Association on behalf of our 15,000 members and their families voted to oppose House Joint Resolution 1 and Senate Joint Resolution 2, and the two proposed bills to create a special one-time election in August.

We believe deeply in direct democracy, the 110-year-old right to a ballot initiative process, one person one vote, and that in our system the majority of 50 plus one is the rule.

Raising the threshold to 60 percent and turning our democracy over to a smaller number of voters is not right for our members, their families, Ohio voters, nor our state.

These are the fundamental reasons we oppose SJR 2, HJR 1, HB 144 and SB 92, but for us it goes much deeper.

We are proud members of the trades in this state and country. The work of our members can be seen everywhere you look in Ohio.

We have been there through good and bad times, and we know we build our way out of recessions, and we build our way into the future.

The feeling in Ohio right now is one of great hope and optimism because we are preparing to go to work on projects that will drive our economy for decades to come.

This is a time when we need to roll our sleeves up, unite and get the job done for us and our future generations.

We need calm. We do not need chaos. We need partnership, not partisanship. These resolutions, the August election, are dividing us when we need to work together.

For business' sake, for the sake of our state, join us and respect the process, respect our institutions, and oppose SJR 2, HJR 1, HB 144 and SB 92.



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Thank you.

Jeff White  
President

John Youngberg  
Secretary-Treasurer