

17 April 2023

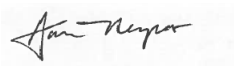
Chairman Rulli, Vice-Chairman Schuring, Ranking Member DeMora, and members of the Senate General Government Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. My name is Jan Nesor. I am testifying as an individual, but for identification purposes I am a professor of education at the Ohio State University.

I write to urge you to vote no on SJR2. The proposed bill, which imitates legislation in other states such as Missouri and Arizona, is a direct attack on our freedom as citizens to make decisions about the laws and institutions that govern our lives. Although the short-term aim of the legislation is to undermine popular referenda in support of reproductive rights¹, in the larger context of gerrymandered voting precincts and legislation that would alter the tax and school funding systems (e.g., HB1), SJR2 would increase inequality in the state² and take greatly weaken the ability of citizens to participate in the democratic process and make their voices heard. I urge you to reject SJR2.

Thank you for considering this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Nesor". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Dr. Jan Nesor

¹ <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/blogs/stateline/2023/02/15/as-abortion-measures-loom-gop-raises-new-barriers-to-ballot-initiatives>

² <https://www.cbpp.org/blog/state-tax-cuts-voting-restrictions-combine-to-worsen-inequities>