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7 May 2025

Testimony in support of HJR 2

Ohio House of Representatives
Government Oversight Committee
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chair Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey and Members of the Committee:

I am John B. Fowler of Oak Harbor, Ohio in the 89th Ohio House District served by Representative D.J. Swearingen. I'm writing to ask you as a committee to consider and pass out of committee H.J.R. No. 2, Application to the Congress of the United States for a Convention of the States under Article V of the Constitution of the United States that is limited to proposing amendments that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and members of Congress.

Regarding those three areas, the Congress has historically sorely abused what it considers its financial authority by incurring trillions of dollars of public debt that has no chance of being repaid. Secondly, it has vacated its lawmaking responsibility by allowing departments of the executive branch to create onerous regulations with penalties including both fines and incarceration without those having been specifically voted into law by Congress. Lastly individual politicians and appointed officials frequently remain in Congress for scores of years becoming millionaires and building campaign war chests filled with money from wealthy donors and lobbying PACs for whom they labor, not their constituents or these United States. It seldom takes a genealogist to know they are frequently succeeded by their spouses, offspring or staff, perpetuating the donor and lobbyist relationship.

It is long past time for this profligate behavior to be ended and prevented from recurring. Congress will not repair itself, it is time for action by we the people, via the provisions of Article V of the Constitution, to rein in the spendaholic, lazy, power and money hungry habits of Congress. It is time for action by we the people, to end their ability to drink from the public trough, to rule without law and to endeavor to put their financial backers before we the people or these United States. In summary, I ask you to join with me and Convention of States, Ohio to act to get H.J.R. No. 2 passed by the Legislature as soon as possible this legislative session. Specifically, I ask that each of you, your Ranking Member, your Vice Chairman and your Chairman vote to pass H.J.R. No. 2, assist the Speaker in getting it to the Floor and passed there and again vote for it for final passage into law. Please contact me with any questions you or the Committee may have regarding this and how it has passed smoothly in 19 other states. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical legislation.

Sincerely,

John B. Fowler