

## **Testimony of Katherine Clark in support of HJR2**

To the House Government Oversight Committee:

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

My name is Katherine Clark, I live in Bowling Green, Ohio, House District 75. My husband and I own a mid-size manufacturing business located in Bowling Green, Ohio. We employ 30 employees locally and have facilities in two other countries. We serve the automotive, aerospace and deep space industries with customers such as Lockheed Martin, Blue Origin and United Launch Alliance.

Our tooling helps our customers control the quality of their products.

It was the States who created our Federal Government. The Federal Government is a product of the States. It is time they controlled the quality of their creation! The purpose of the Federal Government is to serve the States. Instead, Ohio is at the bidding of the federal government. Ohioans are suffering. The federal government is not serving us well.

The unchanging suicidal Federal debt trajectory is impoverishing Ohioans. Further, the federal government is impeding Ohio companies, my company, with excessive regulations that are choking manufacturing and restricting production. A noose can be tolerated only until it cuts off all life. There is a moment that surely comes when it is too tight. The doors close. It is over. We are dangerously approaching that moment.

An Article V Convention of States is neither Republican nor Democrat. It is nothing to be afraid of. Since our independence in 1776 there have been 43 Conventions of States. There is no evidence of any of them acting irresponsibly or “running away.” None of them enacted anything without the approval of the states.

On the other hand, there is overwhelming evidence that our federal government is acting irresponsibly. Our debt crisis comes immediately to mind. USAID is a close second.

I would posit that there is ample case law to show that the guardrails around an Article V Convention of States are high and strong. However, you, as a member of the Ohio State Legislature are the guardrail around the Federal Government. HJR2 is your opportunity to exercise your authority through an Article V Convention of States. I am asking you to pass this out of Committee and support its passage in the House. Ohioans need your help NOW. You have the choice now before you to be our champion, or the nail in our coffin.