

Testimony to the
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COLUMBUS, OHIO

Hearing on H. J. R. No. 2

May 15, 2025
Linda Roth
8081 Simpson Creek Way
Mason, OH 45040

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

My husband and I live in Mason, Ohio. I am a homemaker and my husband will be retiring in one month after 45 years of working for the University of Cincinnati, and the Veterans administration in IT.

Though our financial security is strong, we believe that if our country continues to add trillions to the national debt each year, our children will not be as fortunate. I do not think that two of my three daughters will ever be able to buy a home. I also do not want them to live under a tyrannical government that overregulates and controls our lives in too many areas.

We have slowly been losing our constitutional freedoms; freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, and the right to bear arms. The views of conservatives are blocked on social media and in the news. My comments on Facebook and on our Neighborhood app have been deleted, including a statement about what the Convention of States is about so that others could know about it. Everyone can agree that the size of government and spending are out of control. We can no longer rely on the news media to tell the truth as they are being controlled by political groups and big money. We have non-Christian values being indoctrinated against our children. Teaching preschoolers about transgenderism, and sexual identity at an age where they aren't ready to learn about sex is outrageous. Preschoolers and elementary kids do not need to be assaulted by such information. There are so many more interesting and enriching things that children can be taught! They are being taught distorted views of our country and are not being taught about the wisdom and greatness of our constitution. They don't even know the difference between Democracy and a Constitutional Republic, and therefore, the cries of the liberals that the conservatives are destroying democracy are believed by them to mean we are destroying the constitution! Even Russia is a "democracy". Fortunately, my children learned phonics at a private school, the way children used to learn to read. Now many children have very poor reading skills because of the government's control of our education, enforcing whole language learning. Everyone knows about the Catholic churches being spied on, and the cake decorator who refused to do a wedding cake for a same sex couple. The cake decorator should be able to run his business any way he wants. He wasn't against those individuals, he was simply not comfortable with their morals. It is an infringement on his religious liberties, his right to do what he feels is morally right. And lastly the phrase separation of church and state isn't even understood by my generation. It is not freedom from the power of religion over the government; it is freedom from the government over religion!

Only the powers enumerated in the constitution are to be given to the federal government; the rest belong to the States. We are being controlled by far too many regulations, and government entities. We must bring the powers back to the states where they belong.

I believe it is a critical moment in our history to enact the provisions of Article V of the Constitution. For the protection of our freedoms, I respectfully request that you pass HJR2 now, before we lose our freedoms altogether. We must act now, while we have this chance. We cannot rely on the freedoms we are currently being given back not to be reversed by the next administration.

Thank you for your service to Ohio and for providing me with the opportunity to give this testimony.