

Written Proponent Testimony on Ohio HJR2

Presented to the Ohio House Government Oversight Committee

By: Lisa Whitacre – West Chester Resident, House District 45, Convention of States Member

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

My name is Lisa Whitacre, and I have been a life-long resident of Butler County, Ohio, currently residing in West Chester since 1984. I testify before you as a mother, a wife, a former federal employee, a former small business owner, and a grassroots activist who has spent decades watching the steady erosion of our constitutional liberties and the federal overreach crushing the spirit of ordinary Americans.

My parents instilled in me a love for this country and for its founding principles. I studied The Federalist Papers and even Rules for Radicals at a liberal arts college—an odd mix, yes—but one that gave me insight into how our republic can be preserved or undone. My activism began in the 1990s fighting the incineration of hazardous waste in our community. We organized from the ground up—neighbors, parents, concerned citizens. We made a difference, but it was only temporary. I burned out, stepped back, and focused on raising my family. And then one call in 2011 pulled me back into the fight for America's future.

Our son, a Navy diver aboard the USS Ohio, called home from Tokyo just after the Benghazi attack. I heard my husband say to him: “We don’t feel like our government has the military’s back. When you can, come home, and take care of your family.” That shook me to my core. A young man who was training to defend this nation was now being advised to get out—not because of enemy fire, but because of distrust in our own government’s commitment to its warriors. Our neighbor’s son, J.P. Huling, was later killed in Afghanistan by the Afghani he was training. That loss cemented my resolve. As one of 19 young people I knew in the military, he was the only one who perished.

In 2012, I walked into Congressman Boehner’s office and asked: what is the plan? What is the plan to stop the lies, the surveillance, the spending, the corruption? I did not get an answer then. I still haven’t gotten one. Now—I present you with an answer of my own: It’s time for the States to act. It’s time to call a Convention of States under Article V of the Constitution.

I took an oath when I worked for the U.S. Census Bureau—to protect and defend the Constitution. Just last year, I realized it was not the Constitution our Founders wrote. It was a modern, annotated version, reinterpreted and reshaped by unelected federal judges and bureaucrats. I knocked on thousands of doors across this state, before and after 9/11, and I heard the same thing from ordinary Americans: “The federal government is out of control.”

They were right. We have suffered from a runaway federal government.

We live under the consequences of the Patriot Act—sold to us as protection, but used to surveil innocent Americans. The Affordable Care Act promised cheaper healthcare, but in some years, my husband and I paid 33% of our gross income just for my health insurance tax and deductible. When

COVID mandates rolled out, I watched our government offer million-dollar lotteries for taking an experimental injection, while silencing respected scientists and doctors who raised concerns.

As a biology graduate with biotechnology certification, I evaluated scientific literature. I knew of peer-reviewed studies dating back to 2003 showing the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine against SARS. I noted that it was available over the counter in most countries—but not for Americans. I read, I researched, I questioned—but I was told to sit down and shut up. What happened to informed consent? What happened to the First Amendment? What happened to the Hippocratic Oath? What happened to small business owners and landlords when the federal government prohibited evictions—even if rent wasn't being paid?

I am not here because I want a fight. I am here because, as I see it, We the People have no other peaceful recourse left to correct the abuses of the federal government. We have begged. We have waited. We have voted. We have an Executive branch that rules by Executive Orders that are simply reversed by the next administration. Washington does not listen.

So now I ask you, with the utmost respect:

What is your plan to root out evil and corruption at all levels of government?

Because if you do not have one—then please, let us help.

Let the states reclaim their rightful role. Let the people have a voice again through an Article V Convention of States. We are not asking for power; we are asking for restraint. We are not seeking chaos; we are demanding accountability. We are not rewriting the Constitution; we are proposing amendments—limited to just three topics:

1. Impose fiscal restraints on the federal government
2. Limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government
3. Set term limits for Congress and federal officials

This resolution is not about politics. It is about survival—survival of our families, of our freedoms, and of the very idea of America.

With God, All Things are Possible. Please, do not look back on this moment and wish you had done more. Be the ones who stood up—finally—and said: Enough. The people will be heard. The Constitution will be restored.

I urge you to support Ohio HJR 2 and vote in favor of the Convention of States resolution.

Thank you for your time, your service, and may God bless the people of Ohio and these United States.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Whitacre
West Chester, Ohio