

Testimony of Matthew Winter in support of HJR 2

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

First, thank you for your service to Ohio, for taking this bill up for serious consideration, and for taking the time to hear from dignitaries and grassroots advocates, like myself.

My name is Matt Winter. I'm from Canal Fulton, Ohio, House District 50. I am 67 years old and retired from my accounting profession of 39 years in the power generation industry. I'm now driving a school bus for the local school board, volunteering where I can, enjoying my grandchildren, reconnecting with the community, at large, and paying more attention to the society that I'm leaving for my heirs.

Our forefathers painstakingly designed and implemented a system of ***citizen governance*** that was balanced between congress, the courts, the presidency; **AND statehood**. They gave us **Article V** to protect us from the evil intentions of empire building and centralized power. It is already part of the Constitution. They expected us to use it! ***It is not only our right but our duty to use it when the times comes that the fed has outgrown it's prescribed intentions, burdened us with generations of debt, lifetime politicians, and a bureaucracy answerable to no one!***

The **Declaration of Independence** and **Constitution of the United States** has successfully survived and surpassed these evil intentions because it allows for individual freedom, spirit, liberty, and the pursuit of one's own dreams. It has lasted these 250 years because it was founded on the principle of self-government. ***Let's take it back!***

Please be on the right side of history and help make this happen, for Ohio, for you, and for your family by voting to send HJR2 to the floor and help Ohio become the 20th state to stand up to the overreach of the federal government.

The thing is, even the threat of a convention will get the U.S. Congress to engage with a more conservative agenda. So you see, it's win/win situation! It's a win as we get closer, it's a win just to get to convention, and of course, it's a win to get some sanity and common-sense reforms built into the US Constitution. Executive Orders is no way to run a country, as you know.

Respectfully,

Matt Winter / HD50, SD27 / 330-437-9775

P.S. As you may know, after the constitution was consecrated, Benjamin Franklin was asked what type of government we have actually created and his famous reply was that "we've formed a republic, if we can keep it"! And it was Abraham Lincoln that said it best "we are just one generation from losing it"!