

## Testimony of Rick Hanson in support of HJR No. 2

I am a resident of Williams County, living in Bryan, Ohio, home of the Dum Dum Suckers. After the 2020 elections, I heard about the Victory News Live and Flashpoint and started watching them. On these shows, I heard about Rick Green and Mark Meckler. After receiving an email in April of 2021, I signed the Convention of States petition. I had also been disenfranchised with the elections so when I heard about Rick Green's Biblical Citizenship Coaching class, I signed up even though I wasn't sure I had a venue to have the class. I went through the class in August of 2021 and learned much about the constitution and its founders.

I then asked myself the question "what can I do to be involved"? I signed up to be a poll worker in the 2022 elections. I hadn't really heard anything from COS until I was contacted by Dean Miller in April of 2023 to see if I would become a volunteer for COS. I found there was a position that interested me to become an SIA volunteer. Since then, I met with Dean a couple of times and worked with him to get people to sign the petition. In September of 2023, I also went with Dean and a couple of others to have a breakfast with Representative Jim Hoops to discuss support for Convention of States.

From the website, the convention would only allow the states to discuss amendments that, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints, and place term limits on federal officials." I believe strongly in all 3 proposed amendments, but I would like to address the first one.

During Covid pandemic, unelected bureaucrats shut down our country and required masks to be worn everywhere. Some people even wore them while driving alone in their car. When the "vaccine" became available, the government required its employees to get the shot and strong armed many companies to follow suit. I believe the government worked with big pharma, the media, and tech companies to suppress alternative treatments because it was "disinformation". We also know now that masks were not as effective as we were led to believe due to the size of the virus and the size of the holes in the mask. In addition, we know that the "shot" wasn't a true vaccine, since many people got Covid anyway and perhaps more than once. There's also a significant number of young, healthy people having heart problems and premature deaths.

Aside from the government overreach regarding Covid, there are many other disturbing trends of government overreach.

- The US Patriot Act of 2001 expired in March 2020 without being reauthorized, but still in use by many agencies.
- Use of SWAT teams and no-knock warrants to serve warrants for non-violent crimes on suspects with no histories of violence.

- Cattle emissions (methane) linked to global warming and must be regulated.
- Government wants people to stop eating meat, using gas stoves, dishwashers, and the like.
- Government is pushing electric vehicles without having a reasonable plan for infrastructure in place, even though money was “allocated” for it.

I believe it's time to get to the United States back to a republic where it's of the people, by the people, and for the people. I strongly urge the committee to vote in favor of sending HJR-2 to the house floor and take that step of adding Ohio to the list of states that have passed the resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HJR-2.

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