

## Proponent testimony of Vicki Geraci in support of HJR 2

For at least nine years, the Ohio Legislature has been mired in the fear of what “might” happen if a citizen-led Article V, Amendatory Convention of the States were to be called. Legislators have permitted naysayers to cast doubt on the efficacy of Article V instead of using this Constitutional provision to confront the Federal government. As members of the Ohio Legislature, it is each one of you who have been given the responsibility to exercise accountability over a wildly out of touch Federal government. Our government has recklessly spent our treasury, enforced unconstitutional mandates and promoted endless wars to protect foreign borders at the expense of our citizens. All the while they turn a blind eye to the illegal foreign invasion on our own southern border. Every state including Ohio is now a “border state” due to the callous disregard of our federal government. Our safety and economy have been compromised. Article V will provide the Ohio Legislature with the best tool to protect Ohioans from poor choices made by the Federal government.



Why should we care? Bill and I are 69 years old, and most of our life is behind us. We care because we have seven children, their spouses, nine grandchildren and one great niece as seen in this picture taken at my mother's 90th birthday celebration. These beautiful children will have to bear the burden of the unmitigated disaster our federal government has created. We testify to you today on their behalf.

Now is the time to put aside all fears and confidently use the founder's solution to turn this ship around. Legislative inaction squanders the best remedy to achieve federal term limits, fiscal restraint and to rein in the size and power of the unaccountable bureaucracy that is destroying America from within.

Several million petition signers and hundreds of thousands of active volunteers are working for passage in their own states. They quite literally are willing to give “their lives, their fortunes, their sacred honors” to protect future generations from government freefall. Passage in 34 states would pave the way for the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Mike Johnson, a supporter of the Convention of States, to set the time and place as outlined in Article V. I ask you to take a bold stand to support HJR 2.

Do not allow fear of what “might” happen prevent you from becoming courageous statesmen like our founders. We honor them every July 4, imperfect people who by God's grace stood against the unlawful tyranny of the most powerful nation of their day and won. They were regular people who boldly declared that liberty was not granted by the government but by God.

Let me conclude with an observation. Fear seems to be the excuse we hear most often for not supporting HJR 2. But did you know that at least 365 times in the Bible we are told in some form, “Do not be afraid?” 2 Timothy 1:7 boldly states, “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind.” This verse suggests that a spirit of fear is not from God. Some even suggest that fear if not mastered will devour us. HJR 2 is our most effective solution in our Constitutional toolkit to return the government back to the consent of the governed and it is time we use it. Please give your support to HJR 2 for the benefit of future generations.

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