

**Testimony in favor of HJR 2, by Virginia Morgan to the
Ohio House Government Oversight Committee
October 28, 2025**

Chair Hall, and members of the committee:

Earlier this month I visited historic Williamsburg, Virginia...a dream vacation for me, an amateur historian.

Steeped in Williamsburg's living history and my own research, I had cause to ask myself what position I would have taken in the colonies in the 1770s.

Would I have been a patriot? Would my fear of the British Army have caused me to keep silent to avoid arrest if I spoke out in favor of independence?

The political climate in the 1770s was not so different from today with elites exerting power over those they presumed less valuable. Massachusetts responded to England with the Boston Tea Party.

Today, Americans do not want to see our money poorly managed by either party. Our advantage over the colonists is we can look to our by-laws for guidance. In the Constitution we find Article V, inserted by our Founders. The process works within the framework of the Constitution as a way to course-correct the imbalance of power among the states and DC.

Our Founding documents affirmed government's principal duty as upholding the basic tenets of individual freedoms, and the natural limit to government intrusion in the daily lives of its citizens. Article V can ensure it.

You are in a position of great power. I urge you to recognize the value in the novel tool we bring before you and allow with confidence for Ohio to be the 20th state to pass the COS resolution. Answerable to the American people and law, appointed commissioners will do the right thing in convention.

In closing, I've concluded that had I lived in the 1770s, I would have been a brave patriot in favor of independence from the mother country. I reflect on the heroic statesman Nathan Hale who said, "I regret that I have only one life to give for my country." While not facing the noose, nature has me in the twilight of my life. I, too, regret that I am unable to push on much further in this freedom fight.

And so I appeal to *you*, the states people of our time here in this august and powerful body to do your duty in helping solve our country's most pressing problems. The scale of justice balances itself; it's the way of Nature and of Nature's God.

Be brave enough to do something bold, as so many others have done in our country's history when citizen rights were threatened, and the ship of state needed to be righted. Please pass HJR-2 out of this committee.

Thank you for your service.