Written Testimony in Opposition to Ohio SB 112
Senate General Government Committee
June 17, 2025

To Sen. Roegner, Chair; Sen. Gavarone, Vice Chair; Sen. Blackshear, Ranking Member; and Members of the Senate General Government Committee:

Convention of States President Mark Meckler, in celebrating Framer George Mason for having given us the convention method of Article V, has paraphrased Mason countless times, as having said,

> "Are we so naïve as to believe that a federal government that becomes a tyranny, will ever propose amendments to restrain its own tyranny?"

But George Mason never said that! No Framer ever believed that the purpose of an Article V convention was to propose amendments to rein in federal tyranny.

The Convention of States made that up! They misconstrue Mason's words from Sept. 15, 1787, to justify triggering an Article V convention.

Mason's point was that **if a provision of the Constitution—NOT the Government—**should prove to be oppressive, the people should have the right to propose amendments, **if Congress refuses to propose them**.

If you read George Mason's real quotes in the context of what he said on June 11 of that same year, you'll see that the Article V process was meant to be used when the abuse was **the fault of the Constitution—in order to fix defects in the Constitution.**

No one can rein in the federal government with an amendment. It's the wrong tool, because you can't take away powers from Congress that were never granted to Congress by the Constitution in the first place. What would an Amendment to further limit the federal government say, "**And we really mean it this time**!"?

The Framers gave us a Constitution which limits Congress to **few and defined powers**–mostly in Art. I, Sec. 8. And they gave us the 10th Amendment that gives any powers not enumerated in the Constitution to the States or the People.

Our problem isn't the **language** of the Constitution. Our problem is a People problem. And if

those who don't understand the Constitution start tampering with our Constitution at a convention, you can be sure we'll lose our Constitution.

Please **Vote NO on SJR 3 and SB 112**. Don't fix what isn't broken!

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Respectfully,

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