

Chairwoman Roegner and members of the committee:

My name is Jason Koesters. I'm 45 years old and a lifetime Ohioan.

My father and grandfather began taking me fishing as far back as I can remember. I've turned that passion into part of my dna, as I've been fishing crappie tournaments competitively for over 25 years, and I won the Crappie USA National Championship in 2019.

I'm writing to you today to express my unwavering support for SJR 2, Ohio's Right to Hunt and Fish.

My wife and I have twin boys, and it's part of our goal to ensure they are able to fish and hunt with their grandkids in Ohio someday, long after we're gone. This amendment would help protect that forever.

As we look around the country, there are attacks on these practices; in New Hampshire last year, a group tried to use legislation to ban the sale of live bait. The very way my dad and grandfather brought me into fishing, put at risk by those who don't see the value in these traditions.

From being able to put food on our table, to conservation best practices, to simply ensuring fathers and sons have an outlet on a Saturday morning, enshrining this right into our state constitution is at the core of what it means to be an Ohioan, and I strongly urge you to pass this amendment to allow the voters of Ohio the opportunity to protect this right forever.

Sincerely,

Jason Koesters  
Minster, Ohio