

Testimony of Heidi Workman, COS State Communications Coordinator, in support of SJR No. 4

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chairman Cirino, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Ohio and for the opportunity to express my support for the Convention of States Project. I would like to take a moment to discuss the trajectory of America and why calling a Convention of States is so urgent.

Two years ago, we watched in horror as COVID hit American shores and the greatest free nation in the world was brought to its knees. At that time, we witnessed a global pandemic that the federal government ultimately used to seize our Constitutionally-protected right to pursue happiness. The decision to shelter, mask, vaccinate, and isolate is not the government's decision to make. It's ours and ours alone. In those moments America's Constitution was overruled by a governing elite and they have no intentions to stop their egregious accumulation of power and authority over us.

In just five days the United States, at the initiation of the Biden administration, will join 194 other nations in Geneva at the World Health Assembly to sign over authority of pandemic response to the United Nations. At that time, the World Health Organization will obtain the power to declare international health emergencies, seizing domination over sovereign countries and facilitating the rise of what many would call the New World Order. When this happens, the concept of sovereignty will be obsoleted in the name of global emergency. As this develops, we must understand that there can be no independent nations, no American Constitution, and no true freedom for the people of the world. To make matters worse, anything can be considered a threat to health: the right to bear arms, climate change, carbon emissions, etc. The implications are petrifying and we must take action.

I joined the Convention of States movement because I knew that it was the only legal, peaceful, and powerful organization in the country that could stop this tyrannical federal government. I could no longer sit by and watch my children's future be destroyed on my watch. The Convention of States is the way for the People to say, "we've had enough." United under one movement, with our faith in the Almighty, we *can* reverse course. But state legislatures across the country must take immediate action to accelerate this process before it is too late.

The Founding Father's gave us, The People and the states, the opportunity to circumvent tyrannical rule through Article V. The Convention, when called, would serve as little more than a glorified drafting body to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution that limit the power of the federal government and hold it accountable to We The People. When 34 states support this movement, a national discussion can occur with the brightest minds in the country to consider solutions to stop the government's accumulation of power. The states are responsible for choosing the commissioners and overseeing their actions at a convention. Later, it is the states' responsibility to ratify any amendments that come out of the convention. That places the entire authority of this process in your jurisdiction. The Article V process delivers to each of you, and all of us, an opportunity to save America. The time has come to use it.

The Declaration of Independence states that "to secure the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, governments are instituted among men deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Today, we must rise with a united voice to declare that the federal government and unelected elites no longer have our authority to threaten and seize our God-given right to live free. In an era of uncertainty, out of the Convention of States movement will rise hope, opportunity, and renewed unity. We are a part of the resistance and we are taking a stand to restore this nation back to the principles of Federalism the Founder's gave us in the U.S. Constitution. We place in your hands our trust that you will do the same.

Thank you.