

Opponent testimony from Carol Canavan.

Dear Chairman Plummer and Members of the Committee:

I am very distressed by the seemingly flagrant disregard for the citizens of Ohio that House Joint Resolution 1 represents. The power to bring initiatives to our citizens to amend the constitution has existed since 1912. It is not an easy process as it stands and yet, some of you seem to be convinced that it needs to be harder.

There are 225 separate organizations across Ohio who oppose this power grab. Voters recently defeated a similar proposal in Arkansas. We can imagine the same will happen here in Ohio; however, your sneaky effort to create a separate date for such a vote – August of this year will clearly reduce the turnout. How can you justify the cost to Ohio tax payers of such a special election for you to get your way?

I grew up in Ohio, left the state for several years but returned in 1986, happy to return. As a child I was led to believe that Ohio was one of the best places to live. Now we have degraded our reputation to one of the most corrupt governments in the USA (FiveThirtyEight). Is that a reputation that you relish?

Democracy depends on the participation of all its citizens and I am very disappointed in how little most of our citizens care about what you are doing in Columbus. However, I will continue to urge everyone I know to wake up and start letting you know that your actions do not represent them!

VOTE NO ON HJR1!



North Canton, Ohio

