

HJR1/SJR2 Testimony Jean Henderson 18 Trailbridge Dr Cincinnati 45241

**If passed, these amendments would give more power to special interests and corrupt politicians, limiting our voice in important issues that face our state.** We need to ensure that our voices are heard by our elected representatives.

I am writing to urge you to vote against two measures -- House Joint Resolution 1 (HJR1) and Senate Joint Resolution 2 (SJR2) -- proposed constitutional amendments that seek to restrict Ohio citizens' right to initiative. I believe these amendments will undermine our democracy and limit our freedom to decide on issues that matter most to Ohioans.

HJR1 and SJR2 will make it significantly harder to enact ballot initiatives in Ohio. These amendments will make it easier for a small number of voters (40%+1) to block initiatives that a majority of Ohioans support thereby undermining the sacred principle of 'one person, one vote'.

Further, ballot initiatives let us exercise our freedom to make decisions that affect our lives. They give us a voice in important issues facing our state and let us choose what is best for our community. We must protect it.

In conclusion, I urge you to vote against HJR1 and SJR2 when they come before you to protect our democracy, freedom, and right to amend our constitution. These bills are nothing more than a political power-grab that seeks to limit our voice and give more power to out-of-state special interests. Please do not let that happen.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.