

May 28, 2024

Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Jonathan Lippincott. I am a concerned citizen retired from a career in healthcare management. I strongly oppose HB 1 for these reasons: The bill aims to weaken the voters' ability to pass citizen referenda and make it harder for ballot initiatives to succeed. In addition, the bill could drastically reduce contribution limits and broaden what is considered a PAC to the detriment of low dollar donors. It is a power grab by the Attorney General of Ohio from local county prosecutors. What ever happened to Republicans as the champions of local government and citizen initiatives in contrast to centralized federal and state control.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote no on this bill, which is a blatant attack on direct democracy. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Best Regards,

Jonathan R. Lippincott  
Hamilton County, OH