

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 Debra Brinker. I am a lifelong Ohio citizen and voter. I am a retired physician. I find the actions of the Ohio legislature frequently disturbing these days. I am testifying against HB 1. Every other state in the nation has placed President Biden on the ballot for the November election without any conditions. The Democratic national party has already found a legal fix with precedent. But instead of just allowing that to happen, Senate Republicans are trying to weaken the ability of citizens to put ballot initiatives on the ballot. There is no need to set a precedent. This should not be a negotiating situation. We in Ohio should have a free and fair election, and that includes having both parties' nominees on the ballot. Also, we do not want Dave Yost to have more power than he already has.

Please stop undermining our rights in this state. Our educated children do not want to live here and raise families. I ask you to consider my testimony and vote no on this undemocratic bill. Thank you.

Debra Brinker
Ohio citizen