

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify in writing today. My name is Wenda Sheard. I've been an Ohio attorney for many decades, and I earned PhD in political science in 2004. I am currently running for State Representative in the 94th Ohio House District. As a Democrat, I have growing support among wise Republicans and Independents who are disappointed by the shenanigans of extremists in the Ohio House.

I am strongly opposed to HB 1. Government is supposed by the people and for the people. The severe gerrymandering in Ohio is not lost on the people. The HB6 corruption scandal that raised the electric bills of Ohioans is not lost on the people. The Ohio legislature's August 2023 attempt to eliminate the power of the majority of Ohioans to reign in the legislature is not lost on the people. The Ohio Supreme Court's devolution into partisan politics is not lost on the people.

Do you seriously want to add HB1 to the list of foibles of our current severely gerrymandered legislature? The bill is moving too fast, without time for adequate consideration of each of its provisions. The bill's target is kneecapping the current effort to stop gerrymandering.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this HB1, and move towards restoring the people's faith in their own government.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Wenda Sheard  
May 29, 2024