



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☒ IN SUPPORT OF ☐ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-608-0168	
REPRESENTING: CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1352			
CITY: ST. PETERS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63376
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES HARRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-7875	
REPRESENTING: OPPORTUNITY SOLUTIONS PROJECT		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 122 EAST HIGH STREET SUITE 200			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RON CALZONE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ron@mofirst.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 11:50 AM
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Ratification by Concurrent Majority For years there have been efforts to change the threshold for ratification of proposed amendments to the Missouri Constitution, but the efforts have always failed – perhaps because there was no clear vision for an appropriate alternative to the current simple majority standard. The most common suggestion is to require a super-majority vote. Proponents of that idea often point to the ratification requirements under the U.S. Constitution, particularly the $\frac{3}{4}$ requirement, but they miss the real genius of the federal standard. The real genius is not the super-majority aspect – it's the concurrent majority approach, that is, the fact that ratification is not based on popular vote of all the people of the several states, but is, instead a state by state vote. The concurrent majority principle is the bedrock of most of the decision-making processes we see in American constitutional governance. In addition to the ratification process for the U.S. Constitution:-- The Electoral College-- The apportionment of 2 senators per state, regardless of size-- The very idea of a legislative body, like Congress, the Missouri House or Senate, that is divided into districts each legislator is given stewardship over, rather than a group of people selected by statewide popular vote. These systems prevent the tyranny of the majority. They make sure minority interests have a say. They take into account regional differences. They make the differences between being a democracy and a republic. We wouldn't think if changing these time-tested methods of establishing consensus. All of that is reason to consider the concurrent majority approach to amending the Missouri Constitution. The concurrent majority approach could be applied in various ways, but the preferred standard would require that two conditions be met in order to adopt an amendment: 1) The measure would need a majority statewide vote, just like the current requirement, but it would ALSO; 2) Need a majority popular vote in more than half the ****Missouri House districts****. Requiring a majority vote in a majority of ****counties**** would violate equal representation principles and perhaps the 14th Amendment's requirement of equal treatment under the law. Ron Calzone 33867 Highway E Dixon, MO 65459



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALETA LANIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: aleta.marie3@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 1:42 PM
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This bill threatens democracy, and as a citizen of Missouri, I strongly oppose it. We should not be making it more difficult for Missourians to participate in the democratic process. Please do the right thing and vote against it!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALLYN HARRIS DAULT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: allynharrisdault@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 10:04 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA GLAZEBROOK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: angieglazebrook76@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 8:21 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 11:17 PM
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I am in Full Opposition of this Bill. This Bill is very wrong for Missouri! This is Acting in a DictatorManner of Legislation and Governance. This is taking away Control of Missourians. This is Very Wrongfor Missouri! This is Bad Government Practice. This Disenfranchises Missourians and Takes Away theRight of the Residents to Change, Amend and Correct Our Valued Missouri State Constitution. I UrgeALL Members of the Election Committee and the House of Representatives to Vote Down this awful andBad Proposed Legislation! This Goes Totally Against the Will of Six (6) Million Missourians and is a Direct Slap In the Face to Our State Constitution and Takes Away Control of Missourians Over Elected Officials and State Government. Soundly VOTE This Legislation Down To Defeat!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BILLIE DERHAM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: pnowoman@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 8:26 AM

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I oppose this bill because it weakens our democracy. Please vote NO



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIGITTE SHERIDAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gita.gone.mom@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:04 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CARL BEARDEN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-560-4597	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: UNITED FOR MISSOURI		TITLE: CEO - UNITED FOR MISSOURI	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 2193			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: carl@unitedformissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 7:33 AM

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Members of the Missouri General Assembly have sponsored at least 18 bills and joint resolutions that deal with suppressing Missouri citizens' access to their constitutionally reserved power to use the initiative petition to redress their grievances against their government. These include HJR 91, being heard today. The General Assembly and Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft should listen to our former Gov. John Ashcroft's statement when he vetoed efforts to suppress the use of the ballot initiative: Do not "repress citizen involvement" by diminishing Missourians' ability to use the ballot initiative process. The initiative process is power and freedom that We the People have reserved to ourselves as a check on and to be independent of the General Assembly. Secretary of State Ashcroft and some members of the General Assembly want to put roadblocks up that would severely hamper, if not outright prevent, citizen use of that reserved power. Similar attacks on people's freedom have occurred in the past. They usually arise after an issue gets on the ballot and passes which the party in power does not like. It happened in the late 1980s and early 1990s under Democratic majorities and is happening once again under Republican majorities. Neither party was or is correct in attacking the power the people have reserved to themselves to exercise a check against the General Assembly. With the passage of the Hancock Amendment in the 1980s, the Democratic majority in the General Assembly passed a bill in 1991 that would have severely crippled the use of the initiative petition by citizens. Gov. John Ashcroft rightfully vetoed that bill and for very good reasons. Gov. Ashcroft vetoed Senate Substitute for House Committee Substitute for HB 268 & 87 on June 27, 1992. Gov. Ashcroft provided several reasons for his veto of the bill that equally apply to those proposals being offered today by members of the Republican majority. Gov. Ashcroft makes several key points in his veto message which are just as applicable to today's proposals: • o The initiative petition is a power the people have reserved to themselves; o The law would repress citizen involvement and increase costs for collection and litigation; o The law added burdensome filing requirements that would result in chilling citizen participation; and, o Any resulting attempts to change a petition after it is filed would result in additional delays. Gov. Ashcroft underscored the principle for protecting the initiative petition process in his veto letter when he said: "It is through the initiative process that those who have no influence with elective representatives may take their cause directly to the people. The General Assembly should be reluctant, therefore, to enact legislation that places any impediments on the initiative power which are inconsistent with the reservation found in the Constitution. "Efforts to modernize the initiative petition process are perfectly acceptable, including digitizing the paperwork and avoiding superfluous submissions through a minimal refundable filing fee. But the legislature should resist further changes that would create massive roadblocks to access or inject politics into the people's use of their reserved power. Opinions and positions on issues can change over time. What cannot change is the fundamental principle associated with an issue. Gov. Ashcroft laid out the principle of protecting and

not impeding access to the initiative process by the people in his veto statement. That principle remains unchanged today. We believe the legislature should oppose these efforts and protect Missourians' freedom to use the initiative petition process.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERI L CROCKETT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: chericrockett@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 9:51 AM
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I oppose JHR 88 because it seeks to weaken a long-standing basic citizen right in the Missouri constitution by increasing the number of signatures required to get an initiative on the ballot to 8% from 5% in all 8 Missouri Congressional districts, rather than 6 and increases the the threshold for passage from a majority to a 2/3's majority. The citizens initiative process is a much loved provision of the Missouri constitution. Please leave it as is!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBBIE CROSSNOE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: debbiecros211@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 8:31 PM
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This bill would make it much more difficult for citizens to organize a successful initiative petition. It attacks our citizen initiative process by making it harder to get a citizen initiative on the ballot, and harder for measures to pass once on the ballot, making the process difficult if not impossible for many citizens to get legislation on issues important to them.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBRA COE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: debbiecoe@mac.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 9:30 AM

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I do not support any change in constitutional amendments that restrict, limit or obstruct a citizens right to fully pariscipate in state government. Elected officials who support these measures are Not representative of the people.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DENISE D. LIEBERMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-780-1833	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION		TITLE: DIRECTOR & GENERAL COUNSEL	
ADDRESS: 6047 WATERMAN BLVD.			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63112
EMAIL: denise@movpc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 9:36 AM
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The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) opposes HJR 88. It stands to undermine Missouri's storied citizen initiative process by making it harder for citizens to place measures on the ballot and raising the threshold for passage to near impossible levels, effectively excluding all but the most well-funded efforts from participation, and silencing the voices of Missouri's everyday citizens. HJR 88 proposes changing Missouri's long-standing citizen initiative rules in two ways - by increasing the number of signatures necessary to place proposals on the ballot and increasing the threshold for passage from a majority to two thirds. HJR 88 proposes increasing the number of signatures to require signatures from 8% of voters for a constitutional proposal and 5% of voters for a statutory proposal in all 8 Missouri Congressional districts, rather than 6 of 8, and increases the threshold for passage from a majority to 2/3. As a practical matter, this has the following impacts: * It would significantly increase the number of signatures citizen advocates must obtain potentially by several hundred thousand, making the process more difficult and costly. * By increasing the threshold for passage from a majority to 2/3, the resolution sets a nearly impossible threshold for passage. This means that citizen proposed changes that are supported by a wide majority of Missourians — including measures supported by up to 64 percent of Missouri's voters — would still not pass into law, upending the democratic process that has characterized our electoral process. Measures such as Medicaid Expansion, which was supported by over 60 percent of Missourians, would not pass muster. Creating a prerequisite for ballot measures that is too high for all but the wealthiest supported measures, and establishing a passage threshold that ignores the will of a majority of Missouri's voters belies the First Amendment's promise and strikes at the heart of democratic participation. should applaud Missouri's initiative process and eschew efforts to make direct participation more difficult and elusive for Missouri's citizens.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DON CROZIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: doncrozier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 8:44 PM
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Current Missouri law allows citizens to organize and place measures on the ballot for a vote. It sets a high bar and can only be accomplished through a lot of public support. HJR 88 diminishes every citizen's voice and lets elitists in the legislature get the upper hand over everyday hardworking citizens and should be rejected.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELAINE CHRISTIE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: elainemarie83@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 10:34 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH FRANKLIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: eafrank711@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2022 5:32 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Elizabeth Franklin, Plattsburg MO and I am submitting the following concerns regarding House Joint Resolution Nos. 88, 91 and 102. I do not support these House Joint Resolutions and am respectively submitting testimony in opposition to all three. Missouri has had a citizen petition initiative process for over 100 years. Voter confidence is high for laws passed through the petition process. The ballot initiative process is rigorous. Currently only 40% of the constitutional amendments placed on the ballot via citizen petition initiative have passed, proof that the process is demanding and requires much thought by Missouri voters and exceedingly hard work by interest groups who want an initiative on the ballot. John Ashcroft has stated, "It is through the initiative process that those who have no influence with elective representatives may take their cause directly to the people. The General assembly should be reluctant, therefore, to enact legislation which places any impediments on the initiative power which are inconsistent with the reservation found in the Constitution." Wise words that should be heeded by the current Missouri Assembly. The proposed change to increase the threshold for ballot passage from a simple majority to two-thirds seems terribly biased given that each chamber can refer a constitutional amendment to the ballot with a simple majority. Adding these obstacles is unnecessary, unfair and should not be enacted. Our 100-plus years of citizen petition process has worked; please do not change what is NOT broken. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this very important topic.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY HORNSTRA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: emzplanet@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 7:57 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ERIN GRAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: erineileengray@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2022 6:07 PM
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We oppose this....” Initiative petitions proposing amendments to the constitution shall be signed by eight percent of the legal voters in each of [two-thirds of] the congressional district”We don’t need this change. This is trying to gut the petition process. This is a flagrant form of voter suppression. It’s aimed at silencing constituents. We reject this.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: FRANCINE GLASS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: fran813@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 11:06 AM
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I am strongly opposed to HJR 88. Please vote NO			



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JACOB HUMMEL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2115	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI AFL-CIO		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 131 E. HIGH STREET STE 100			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: jakehummel@moaflcio.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 8:52 AM

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Honorable Representatives of the Committee, The Missouri AFL-CIO, the voice of working Missourians, opposes any legislation that would increase the signature threshold to the vote margin necessary for initiative petitions or constitutional amendments. Increasing the filing fee or adding additional cost to the process makes it harder for Missourians to exercise their rights. We believe this is another attempt to silence our fellow Missourians in the legislative process. Our founders, in their wisdom, built multiple ways the people of our state could act as a check on politicians, and hold their government accountable. And finally they gave we, the people, the initiative petition process; so that when necessary, the people could govern themselves directly, without the necessity of politicians acting as intermediaries. We respectfully urge a "No" vote.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES COYNE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: james@coyneagency.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 5:28 PM
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The Citizen petition is critical for our state. It allows the people, through direct involvement, to change the laws they live under. These bills all weaken that process and make it much more difficult. I would actually favor making the process easier so that groups with out a big war chest would have a shot at getting an initiative on the ballot. James Coyne - Mid Mo Patriots Columbia, Mo. 65201 573-489-3422



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNA ROBERSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jroberson1181@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 10:41 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER BERNSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-277-9080	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD.			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 1:44 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Jennifer Bernstein, and I am submitting this testimony in opposition of HJR 88 on behalf of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. HJR 88 would attack our citizen initiative process by making it harder to get a citizen initiative on the ballot and more difficult for measures to pass once on the ballot, making the process difficult if not impossible for many citizens' grass roots efforts. For more than a century, Missouri citizens across the political spectrum have been able to have their voices heard through the initiative petition process. I have a difficult time understanding why legislators wish to fix something that is not broken. HJR 102 increases number of signatures for constitutional amendments from 8% to 10% of registered voters in all eight Missouri Congressional districts, and 5% of voters in all districts for a statutory proposal. This is entirely unnecessary and undercuts democracy. Lawmakers should reject efforts to make direct democracy more difficult. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HJR 88.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOAN GENTRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: joangentry2012@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 6:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

TESTIMONY: HJR 88To: Committee Chairperson and members of the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee,I am writing in opposition to HJR 88. The Initiative Petition process in Missouri does not need to be changed. It has served our state well for the last 115 years and has provided our citizens with a method for direct impact on our state government originating at the grass-roots level.This bill, if approved, would require that petition signature collection occur in all 8 Congressional districts, with a requirement of 8% for constitutional amendments and 5% for laws. It would also require that all initiative petitions proposing constitutional amendments receive a majority vote in 2/3s of the counties to pass. Is this really representative of a democracy?I am opposed to HJR 88.Joan Gentry, Springfield, MO 65807



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATHLEEN DOLSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kdolson1@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 8:42 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am **STRONGLY OPPRESSED** to this bill. Requiring initiative petition signature collection to occur in each Congressional district in the state makes it nearly impossible for any group of citizens to have a choice in our own government.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KENDRA VARNS WALLIS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-210-3413	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PARKS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 8531			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64114
EMAIL: kendra.wallis@missouriparks.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 9:11 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri Parks Association is in opposition to HJR 88. This House Joint Resolution to authorize a referendum on citizen-led ballot initiatives threatens the ability of Missouri citizens to participate in our state democracy. By setting the bar higher for voter signatures in more counties than what is currently needed for citizens to have initiatives placed on the ballot, it places Missouri citizens' ability to participate in the democratic process almost entirely out of reach. Furthermore, requiring a majority of voters in 2/3 of the counties of the state rather than a majority of the total voters in the state seeks to disenfranchise voters in the more populous counties by treating their votes as less than other counties and is undemocratic. Some of the best of what Missouri has to offer has come from citizen-led ballot initiatives, such as the Parks, Soils and Water sales tax that funds our world-class state parks. On behalf of the almost 3,000 members of the Missouri Parks Association who enjoy and invest in Missouri, we oppose HJR 88 and any legislation that would put a citizen's right to participate in our democracy in jeopardy. Do not advance HJR 88.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LEONA BOCHANTIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lbochantin88@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 1:46 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
I am opposed to making it harder to participate in the democratic process!!			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LORETTA FUGE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: drfuge@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 8:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: M'EVIE MEAD		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: ADVOCATES OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ST. LOUIS REGION AND SOUTHWEST MO		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: mevie.mead@ppslr.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 9:51 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri opposes HJR 88 because it imposes additional, unnecessary burdens on Missourians' right to directly petition one another. The current process to qualify a measure for the ballot through initiative petition is already extremely difficult, requiring hundreds of volunteers to devote thousands of hours. Missourians have had the right to directly petition one another for changes to our laws and constitution for nearly 150 years. This measure is an attack on our history and constitution. Missourians of all political persuasions have used the process, oftentimes using it together to overcome legislative roadblocks. Initiative petitions require the signatures of between 200,000 and 350,000 Missourians — one of the highest signature requirements in the nation — while the Legislature can put items on the ballot with a simple majority vote of politicians. These proposals nearly double the burden of signature gathering required for citizens while leaving untouched the Legislature's power to put issues on the ballot. It's plain to see that HJR 79 is about silencing, not empowering, the voters. In the midst of a pandemic without the protections of COVID voting options, lawmakers should focus on making voting more accessible rather than pursuing unnecessary, expensive and unconstitutional burdens on the right to vote in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE OLIVIA EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-1137	
REPRESENTING: PRO CHOICE MISSOURI		TITLE: POLICY MANAGER	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 56574			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63156
EMAIL: maggie@prochoicemissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 11:04 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Chairman Shaul, Vice-Chairwoman McGaugh, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today in opposition to HJR 88, 91, & 102 which would prevent the initiative petition process from working for the people of Missouri. Pro-Choice Missouri works to protect and expand every Missourian's right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare, to access accurate information to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. Moreover, we work to ensure reproductive justice for all Missourians, which involves advocating to reduce disparities based on race, income level, insurance coverage status, and other factors. Over the last 3+ years Pro-Choice Missouri has been heavily invested in several ballot initiatives including Medicaid Expansion, Raise up Missouri, and Clean Missouri. We had a team of 7 people who collected more than 5,500 signatures to help get Medicaid Expansion on the ballot. This number is only a fraction of the total 120,000 signatures that were collected by the larger campaign. Everyday our employees got up in the sun, the wind, the snow, and the rain, to speak to strangers on street corners all across the First and Second Congressional Districts. They waited on metro platforms for hours on freezing days being rejected by strangers, hoping for a few good conversations. The most densely populated neighborhoods in St Louis to the most lonely country roads. Under current law, initiative petitions proposing constitutional amendments must be signed by 8% of the legal voters who voted in the last gubernatorial election in each of two-thirds of the congressional districts. The proposed constitutional amendments in HJR 88, 91, & 102, if approved by the voters, require such petitions to be signed by 10% of the legal voters in each of the congressional districts. The proposed increase in the threshold for constitutional reform would make Missouri the most difficult state in the country for constituents to participate in the democratic process. Our small non-profit organization puts considerable effort into supporting these ballot initiatives, and makes up only a small fraction of the signatures already required. This amendment would require over 100,000 more signatures and would make it so only well financed groups could access the ballot. This change denies the people their voice in the process and preferences large monied organizations. HJR 88, 91, & 102 would make the ballot initiative process prohibitively difficult, because the task is already a monumental one. The measure is retaliatory to the millions of voters who voted in favor of medical marijuana, ethics reform, medicaid expansion, and so much more. Missourians have spoken. They may be at ideological odds with some of you on this committee but that does not warrant you taking away their right to have a direct voice in government through this process. A NO vote is a vote to listen to Missourians. These resolutions will have lasting negative impacts in Missouri. Pro-Choice Missouri, representing more than 70,000 members across the state, opposes the advancement of these resolutions, and urges you to vote NO today. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MALLORY RUSCH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-306-8945	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 308 E HIGH ST #100			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: mallory@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 8:32 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Date: 01/19/2022 To: Chairman Shaul and Members Elections and Elected Officials
Committee From: Mallory Rusch, Executive Director, Empower Missouri RE: Our opposition for
HJR 91 / HJR 102 / HJR 88 Founded in 1901, Empower Missouri is working to eradicate poverty in
Missouri. We know that in order to reach that vision, citizens must be actively involved in the policy
making process. For over 100 years the initiative petition process has allowed our neighbors to directly
engage in the democratic process. These individuals have unique insight into their own lives which
elected officials will not. They know best what helps and hinders their everyday lives. The initiative
petition process works. Missouri voters have used it to reduce or eliminate taxes, support agriculture,
and more. There are checks and balances in place which prevent the state voters from violating the
Missouri constitution or federal law. This freedom is foundational to the Missouri law making process
and should not be hindered. Attacks and limits on the initiative petition process are anti-democratic
and should not advance. We respectfully ask this committee not to pass any policy which will make
the initiative petition process more difficult, including the slate of bills before it today.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY NEMECEK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BURROUGHS AUDUBON SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY		TITLE: CONSERVATION CHAIR	
ADDRESS: 7300 SW WEST PARK RD			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64015
EMAIL: Conservation@burroughs.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 10:50 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City opposes HJR 88. This bill makes it harder for citizens to participate in governing and shaping the state in which we live. So many of the best things about Missouri have come from citizen led ballot initiatives. These initiatives includes the world renowned Missouri Department of Conservation and Parks, Soils and Water Tax that funds our world class state parks. This bill puts an unfair, probably impossible, hurdle in the way of voters. We strongly urge you reject HJR 88. Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City has 2,000 members in the Greater Kansas City area. Our mission is to promotes the appreciation of birds and nature, natural history education, and the conservation of habitat.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR, MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRO	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE, SUITE 100			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 10:16 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

January 19, 2022 Representative Dan Shaul Elections and Elected Officials Committee Missouri House of Representatives 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 313-1 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Dear Chairman Shaul and Members of the Committee, The Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Joint Resolution No. 88 seeks to weaken this power by proposing a constitutional amendment that would make it harder for Missourians to participate in the democratic process. For this reason, we respectfully ask that you oppose HJR 88. The constitutional amendment outlined in HJR 88 specifically requires initiative petitions to be signed by 8% of legal voters in each congressional district in Missouri if the petition is proposing a constitutional amendment and 5% of such voters if the petition is proposing a law. This modifies the current requirement that petitions be signed by the aforementioned percentage of voters in two-thirds of the congressional districts. The official fiscal analysis of HJR 88 projects that this will increase the number of required signatures by 40%, which would make it significantly more difficult for Missourians to make their voices heard. In addition, HJR 88 requires constitutional amendments proposed by petitions to receive a majority vote in two-thirds of the counties in the state. This is problematic because it undermines the independence of the initiative petition process. The independence of the petition process outlined in Article III Section 49 and the signature requirements outlined in Article III Section 50 of the Missouri Constitution, which HJR 88 seeks to amend, have been untouched since the current version of the Constitution was adopted in 1945. The origins of Section 50 go back even further to Article IV of the 1875 Constitution, which placed legislative restraints on elected officials who acted against the well-being of their constituents. In short, these sections, as currently written, were designed to give Missourians the right to independently engage in the legislative process in the face of corrupt politicians. Any attempt by politicians to weaken this right is only further proof of its importance. Once again, the Missouri Coalition for the Environment asks you to vote "no" on HJR 88 in order to preserve the constitutional right of Missourians to engage in the initiative petition process without interference from politicians who wish to make this process more difficult. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott, JD Policy Director Missouri Coalition for the Environment mvatterott@moenvironment.org (314) 727-0600, ext. 111



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
REPRESENTING: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER POLITICAL DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 2818 SUTTON BLVD			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63139
EMAIL: Michael.Berg@sierraclub.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 2:16 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Missouri Sierra Club supports Missouri's nearly century old initiative petition process. It is an essential way that ordinary Missourians can participate in our democracy. Missourians have had the right to directly petition one another for changes to our laws and constitution for nearly 150 years. This is an attack on our history and constitution. Initiative petitions require the signatures of between 200,000 and 350,000 Missourians while the legislature can simply refer items to the ballot with a simple majority vote of politicians. This is no easy feat as is. We should not make democracy more difficult to participate in, as this bill would do. Please reject House Joint Resolution 88.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY COPENHAVER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-263-5725	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI		TITLE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
ADDRESS: 1512 RIDGELINE DRIVE			
CITY: MOBERLY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65270
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY MEIER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: nancylmeier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 7:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

There is no reason to require signature collections in all eight congressional districts to put something on the ballot. Additionally no reason to require majority of voters in two-thirds of Missouri counties to pass. This is just another attempt at taking the power away from the people and keeping for the legislature. LET US VOTE!!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY SACCONI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: nlisaccone@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 11:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am a Missouri constituent in zip code 63141. I am writing to convey my opposition to HJR 88 because it will interfere with our ballot initiative process, which is an important part of our democratic process. The ballot initiative process is already difficult. This bill would make it much more difficult, in an unjustifiable way, for citizens to get constitutional amendments to be placed on the ballot and for citizens to pass them. Recently, the ballot initiative process has led to important and much-needed improvements to the daily life of Missourians which a majority of us support, including expansion of Medicaid to provide critical healthcare to under-served Missourians. I ask our MO legislative representatives to oppose HJR 88 as I do. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE COOPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ncooper020@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 8:57 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: OTTO FAJEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3202	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NEA		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1810 EAST ELM STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: otto.fajen@mnea.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 10:12 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Association appreciates the opportunity to present written testimony regarding HJR 88. The Association opposes the joint resolution.HJR 88 requires the collection of the required percentage of signatures in all eight Congressional districts, rather than the current requirement of six districts, and requires a two-thirds majority for the approval of any future constitutional amendment, regardless of whether submitted by the legislature or the initiative petition. The Association supports removing barriers for eligible citizens to vote and participate politically. The initiative petition process is already a significant and challenging effort. The Association is concerned that these changes would make the process so difficult that, as a practical matter, the initiative petition process would no longer be a realistic option for Missouri citizens to bring issues of concern forward for public consideration.On behalf of the Association, I thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony on this issue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: REVEREND CHELSEY D HILLYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cdhillyer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 10:32 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

By increasing the threshold for citizen initiatives from majority to 2/3, this bill gives the legislature greater power than the citizens in ballot initiatives, effectively creating barriers for citizen participation in the democratic process. I oppose this legislation, as I believe that it creates greater hurdles to get citizens involved in the democratic process. I encourage lawmakers to reject it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY		PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239	
REPRESENTING: JOBS WITH JUSTICE VOTER ACTION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 722			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT RANDOLPH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: scottrandolph0202@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 10:28 AM
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My name is Scott Randolph, I am retired and live in Jefferson City, MO. I have worked as a volunteer collecting signatures for successful ballot initiatives, including Clean Missouri, minimum wage, and Medicaid expansion. I have spent hours in front of polling places, on corners along High Street here in Jefferson City, at our local DMV, and at community events talking to people about what matters in their daily lives. In my experience, some people would be too busy or focused on other things to take the time to stop. But I found that if I just mentioned a key phrase, like “affordable health care”, or “big money in politics”, “open and honest government” or “fair voting districts” or a “decent wage for a hard day’s work”, people walk a few steps past me then turn around and ask to tell me more. They were genuinely interested in finding out why I was there, and we had good conversations about the issues that they felt were important to themselves, their family, and their neighborhoods. And more often than not, they put their signatures on the petition, symbolizing that they were willing to take a public stand and let their voice be heard. I talked to conservatives, progressives, independents, and people of different backgrounds, and I know this because often they told me or indicated something about their political beliefs. And most importantly, I did not try to mislead them about what the objectives of the petition were about nor was I ever asked or directed to do so. It was not an easy job, I had to stand outside in all kinds of weather for hours just to get a decent number of signatures. This resolution will make it harder to get a citizen initiative on the ballot, and harder for measures to pass once on the ballot, making the process difficult if not impossible for many citizens grass roots efforts. In fact, if the criteria in this resolution would have been in effect when I had those conversations with fellow citizens out on the street, those initiatives might have failed. How do you think it would go, if you, their state representatives, went back to those people who signed my petitions, looked them in the face and told them that “sorry, we don’t think your voices count.” “We make all the decisions here; your voices don’t matter.” This resolution takes away my freedom and my right to let my voice be heard, it takes away the freedom and rights of those people who I met on the street corners and polling places to let their voices be heard, and it takes away the freedom and the rights of people who you represent in your districts to let their voices be heard. These are not “reforms”, this is simply a power play to shift political power away from ordinary citizens, and into the hands of partisan politicians, represented by selfish big money interests. Don’t restrict access to direct democracy, for “We, the People.” I urge you to vote no on this resolution.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 88		DATE: 1/19/2022	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN W. SKRAINKA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: steve.skrainka@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 10:53 AM

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BEFORE THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS Testimony
Opposing House Joint Resolutions 79, 91, 102, and 88 Hearing and Executive Session January 18, 2022
Jefferson City Good Afternoon Chairman Shaul, Vice Chairman McGaugh, Ranking Member Windham,
and Honorable Representatives. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in writing before you

today. I submitted testimony opposing HJR 91 on January 11, 2022 to this committee. My name is
Stephen Skrainka, I live in University City. For identification only I am a member of the Voting Rights
Chavurah of the Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis, a member of the League of Women Voters
of Metro St. Louis Education Committee, a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council's
Policy Advisory Committee, a member of the Council on Racial Equality, and a member of the Missouri
Voter Protection Coalition. I am also an attorney and a founder and Past President of Central Reform
Congregation. I am testifying as an individual, not as a representative of any of these organizations.

My reasons for opposing these bills are as stated in my January 11 testimony. This
combination of bills only compete in the how much more impossible they make the people's use of this
most democratic right to petition to solve people's grievances. They are outrageously anti-democratic
and should be killed in this committee. A majority vote in two-thirds of the counties! Are you serious?
If you take the long view, this initiative process has been in our Missouri Constitution for about 115
years. Do you really think you will control this body for the next 115 years and be able to do whatever
you please regardless of the people's wishes? Many conservative measures have been adopted over
the years through this process including limitations on Missouri's budget and spending and, I believe,
term limits. It is truly non-partisan and quite difficult and expensive and rarely succeeds as Ben
Senturia's January 11 testimony shows. Don't destroy it merely because you don't agree with the last
few measures the people have adopted. Thank you.



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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUE RYLE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: retiredteachsue@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 9:33 AM

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Lawmakers should protect, not reject, the citizen initiative petition process which has allowed citizens to participate in the democratic process for more than a century. Lawmakers should reject efforts to make direct democracy more difficult.



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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2022 9:12 PM
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This unAmerican resolution transparently seeks to silence the voice of The People.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2022 4:44 PM
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All of these bills restrict Citizens ability to initiate key proposals for a state wide vote when the legislators refuses to listen to the needs of their constituents. Petitions are our only way for us to have any input. A great example is the expansion of medicare.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 10:46 AM
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Citizens right to initiate petitions would be greatly hampered by these over the top restrictions. My biggest concern is that legislators see, to feel no need to respect the amendments that have been voted in in the past.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM FERRI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: thomas.m.ferri@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2022 7:38 PM

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The petition process is true democracy at work. Shame on you for trying to change it, especially when you've failed to do what the people really want.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☒ IN OPPOSITION TO ☐ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM FERRI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: thomas.m.ferri@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2022 11:14 AM

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Stop making it harder for the people to overturn stupid Republican laws.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: ☐ IN SUPPORT OF ☐ IN OPPOSITION TO ☒ FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARILYN MCLEOD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2022 12:00 AM
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