

Written testimony in SUPPORT of House Joint Resolution HJ6 concerning United States Constitution Amendments Convention – Limitations of Federal Power

House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

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Dear Committee Chairwoman, the Honorable Delegate Healey and Committee members,

My name is Deirdre Elvis-Peterson. I am a naturalized American citizen, emigrated from Guyana, South America at the age of 6 with my 3 siblings, our parents, and our grandmother. My parents actually LEFT their 4 children for 2 years in order to seek out the promise of a better life offered in the United States of America before our grandmother flew w/us here. That was 1980.

In my time growing up here, I learned how the American government was SUPPOSED to work. It was a unique design. There were measures put in place. Checks and balances.

Over the past few years, I've become a parent. Something changes with that responsibility. I began to pay attention in a different way...other parents will understand. I started to see things I did not like for my children's future.

For instance, I went to public school BUT couldn't send my children there due to what I see as the degradation of the public school system from when I was there.

I went to college, but SHUDDER at the thought of MY children doing so, because of the debt they would incur, the propaganda I feel is being pushed, and the lack of safety for my 3 daughters in what used to be their exclusive spaces.

I grew up in Maryland and sadly I fear I may have to relocate to a state where the federally elected representatives will actively work to protect my freedoms.

I have witnessed our federal government exercise powers that it should not be able to.

I have witnessed lifetime politicians use their seats for THEIR benefit not that of their constituents! Some of these politicians have been in office as long - or longer - than I have been ALIVE! THAT is disturbing! These are the things my family fled from in our home country and now they are here.

I've seen our national debt grow to something that generations to come will be struggling to pay off.

I've seen states cooperate with the federal government to the detriment of their citizens because of the promise of federal funding that tied their hands. Hospitals were unable to make individualized care decisions and use their expertise during this pandemic they said because of their ties to federal funding. This is appalling!

Our government needs reeling IN. We turn to our State legislatures to do the jobs they were elected to do.

By voting Favorable on this joint resolution and moving it to the full House for debate, you are showing me that you actually care to hear our voices and there is FINALLY hope in Maryland for a full and open debate about this legislation and that immigrants hope for a free America can help be realized.

Please vote Favorable on HJ6. Thank you.