

Testimony to Support Convention of States SJ1 - By Yuen Mun (Bridget) Cheung-Smith

My name is Yuen Mun Cheung. I am a first-generation immigrant from Hong Kong. I came to the United States 24 years ago – leaving everything I knew to escape from Communism, where our central government controlled how many children we could have. There today censorship has been extended not only to media but also all internet activities are monitored and a social credit score in place.

I came to the United States to be free of that reality.

Our government system is the best in the world when it operates in accordance with the Constitution. We have strayed from that.

For years, our federal government has placed regulatory burdens upon businesses, rules upon rules to restrict commerce and freedom of speech. These are very familiar things to me, and my family does not want that to happen here. But we cannot stop it without your help.

Federal agencies are not elected by the people. However, they are able to collect and spend people's money to play favoritism on projects that only benefit their donors. You know what's the best for Marylanders better than officials in DC. I hope I can count on you making sure the federal government would not get bigger.

I am worried that if you do not, Americans would live like where I came from – overreaching central government, controlled by a few hundred representatives, collecting huge amount of taxes from citizens but distributing very little to provinces that need it most and too much involvement in our personal lives.

It will hurt everyone, particularly state governments because they will no longer have much control. Please keep this from happening. You do not want to know how bad it feels to live under those conditions. Neither do I want to go back to it.

Therefore, I am here to ask you to support SJ1. Thank you very much.