

# Jenny SPENCER

CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL

WARD 15

June 30, 2023

Dear Ward 15 Voter,

I am reaching out with urgency to ask you to **vote “NO” on Issue 1, on or before August 8th**. Issue 1 threatens the future of democracy in Ohio by trying to raise the threshold for constitutional amendments from a simple 50%+1 majority to 60%. If Issue 1 passes, just 40% of voters could block any issue.

On the back side of this page is a powerful explanation of Issue 1 and what is at stake. If you'd like additional information, I'd encourage you to look to sources such as:

- The *Plain Dealer*/cleveland.com which has made all Issue 1-related content free online, even to non-subscribers: [tinyurl.com/PDISSUE1](https://www.cleveland.com/story/arc4/issue1)
- Common Cause Ohio, [bit.ly/VoteNoEditorials](https://bit.ly/VoteNoEditorials)
- [Votenoinaugust.org](https://www.votenoinaugust.org), the statewide coalition against Issue 1

Key dates for the August 8, 2023 Special Election include:

July 10 - Voter Registration Deadline

July 11 - Early Voting Begins

August 1 - Absentee ballot request deadline

August 8 - ELECTION DAY

You can make a difference by:

- Voting early, either in-person or absentee. *Request absentee ballots now; don't wait!*
- **Texting and calling your friends and family now to remind them of the August election & tell them to vote NO on Issue 1.** Many voters have been purged from the State of Ohio's voter database. Your contacts should double-check their voter registration status and re-register online, if needed, before 7/10 at [www.VoteOhio.gov](https://www.VoteOhio.gov).

Additional voting resources and information are available on the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website at [www.443vote.us](https://www.443vote.us) or by calling them at (216) 443-8683. To volunteer or to display a yard sign, email [cleward15demclub@gmail.com](mailto:cleward15demclub@gmail.com). Please do not hesitate to contact me any time at [jenny@jennyspencer.org](mailto:jenny@jennyspencer.org).

Respectfully,



Jenny Spencer

Ward 15 Council Member

## Vote “NO” on Issue 1

This amendment would destroy citizen-driven ballot initiatives as we know them, upending our right to make decisions that directly impact our lives. It takes away our freedom by undermining the sacred principle of 'one person, one vote' and destroys majority rule in Ohio.

Last year, Ohio politicians eliminated August special elections saying, ***“Interest groups often manipulatively put issues on the ballot in August because they know fewer Ohioans are paying attention.”***

And yet here we are, voting in August on just one question: **should Ohio permanently abolish the basic constitutional right of majority rule?**

Special interests and corrupt politicians say yes. They don't like voters making decisions, so they're trying to rewrite the rules to get what they want: even more power.

Here's why we're confident Ohio citizens will resoundingly vote NO:

- ☒ **Issue 1 Ends Majority Rule:** It means just 40% of voters can block any issue, putting 40% of voters in charge of decision-making for the majority.
  
- ☒ **Issue 1 Shreds Our Constitution:** It would permanently undo constitutional protections that have been in place for over 100 years to check politicians' power at the ballot box.
  
- ☒ **Issue 1 Takes Away Our Freedom:** It would destroy citizen-driven ballot initiatives as we know them, guaranteeing that only wealthy special interests could advance changes to our constitution.
  
- ☒ **Issue 1 Applies to All Issues:** If this amendment passes, it will apply to every single amendment on any issue Ohioans will ever vote on – you name it, just 40% of voters will decide.

We all deserve to make decisions that impact our lives. We must protect our freedom to determine our future, not permanently change our constitution to give up our rights. Vote NO.

*Vote “NO” argument prepared by Ohio Senators Paula Hicks-Hudson and Vernon Sykes and Ohio Representatives Dontavius Jarrells, Bride Rose Sweeney, and Dani Isaacsohn.*