

We, the undersigned, oppose Issue 2, which would amend the Ohio state constitution to create a Livestock Board with unchecked power over livestock rules and regulations. We believe that this is an inappropriate use of the Ohio constitution, and would set a dangerous precedent by creating a permanent place for special interests in the constitution.

We further oppose Issue 2 for the following reasons:

- Amending the Ohio constitution should be reserved for significant issues that affect the rights of all Ohio citizens. This issue focuses narrowly on livestock regulation and is an inappropriate use of the constitution.
- Issue 2 expands state government, creating an added layer of unaccountable bureaucracy over Ohio's livestock farmers. Today, Ohioans cannot afford more government.
- The Ohio Livestock Board would have largely unchecked power to override any act by the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the state legislature.
- The Ohio Livestock Board will have expansive authority over any and all policies in the state related to animals in agriculture.
- Each Governor would hand pick a board of political appointees which could radically move livestock standards in any direction.
- The Livestock Board will be the judge and jury for all animal agriculture policies in Ohio, what the board decides is final. There is no further review or evaluation of the standard, no established forum for public comment and no ability to appeal the decision.
- The proponents of this measure stand to benefit from the removal of livestock oversight from democratically controlled authorities.

We oppose Issue 2 and amending the Ohio state constitution to create a Livestock Board because it allows special interests to hijack the state constitution.

Ohio Farmers Union

Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association

Ohio Sierra Club

Ohio Environmental Stewardship Alliance

Food & Water Watch

Organic Consumers Association

Center for Food Safety

Family Farm Defenders

Ohio Conference on Fair Trade

Wood County Citizens Opposed to Factory Farms

Western Lake Erie Water Keepers Association

Grand Lake St. Mary's Improvement Association

Clintonville Community Market

Williams County Alliance

Working Families Win- Ohio Chapter

Mercy for Animals

Cornucopia Institute

The Wellness Forum

Weston A. Price Foundation