Co-Chair
Charleta B. Tavares
Assistant Minority Leader
15ᵗʰ Senate District

Co-Chair
William G. Batchelder, Speaker
69ᵗʰ House District

OHIO CONSTITUTIONAL MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS & UPDATING COMMITTEE
DENNIS MULVIHILL, CHAIR
THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014

Chair Mulvihill called the meeting of the Constitutional Revisions and Updating Committee to order at 1:35 p.m. A quorum was present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and Vice Chair Kurfess recommended revisions be made to include the discussion from the previous meeting regarding competing ballot language for constitutional amendments through the General Assembly.

Professor Steven Steinglass from Cleveland State University was present and provided testimony on the initiated statute process in Ohio and how proposed revisions by the committee compared to procedures in other states.

A discussion was held regarding the goal of encouraging the use of initiated statutes over constitutional amendments. Reducing the geographic requirement from 44 to 22 counties for initiated statutes, creating a 5 year protection period during which a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly would be required to change initiated statutes, and adjusting the supplemental petition process for initiated statutes were discussed.

A discussion was held regarding allowing the General Assembly to create competing ballot language for constitutional amendments, increasing the vote requirements to pass constitution amendments, requiring a constitutional amendment pass in two subsequent elections and adjusting the timing and deadlines of the constitutional amendment process.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

DENNIS MULVIHILL, CHAIR

CHARLES KURFESS, VICE CHAIR