

I am Laura Rosenberger, an elected member of the Ohio Republican Party State Central Committee, District 10, Clark, Greene and Madison Counties. My colleague, JoAnn Campbell from Medina County's District 22, and I stand here outside what was supposed to be a picnic to bribe State Central Committee members into endorsing Mike DeWine at their September meeting. Even if that picnic had not been cancelled, JoAnn and I would still be standing outside here with you right now, along with two other members from the Committee who could not be here today, Mark Bainbridge District 16 and Denise Verdi District 25. You can be assured that the four of us stand with you, for you, and by you, against ORP primary endorsements and fiscal mismanagement and corruption.

ORP Treasurer Dave Johnson, in a recent Ohio Star news article, called me and other Committee members who are concerned about the ORP's fiscal mismanagement, Malcontents. I agree with Treasurer Johnson – I am a Malcontent. I am not satisfied or content with the status quo at the ORP and the longstanding corrupt relationship that exists between the ORP and corrupt Republican elected officials and candidates. So yes, Malcontent is the perfect word. Thank you, Treasurer Johnson.

JoAnn and I do not have to go into detail about what has gone wrong at the ORP because so much has been revealed in the past few weeks that you already know. Everyone knows we have a chairman who has put into writing that he prefers to make important financial decisions on his own without the input or knowledge of the committee. This is called a dictator. And everyone knows primary endorsements and open-ended funding of corrupt state incumbent officials needs to end. For decades, Committee members and chairmen have abdicated their fiduciary duty to the party, and today we are seeing the results of that neglect and abuse. Amending the bylaws will help, but it won't work if we allow members and chairmen who brazenly violate the bylaws to get away with it. We must hold them accountable otherwise any efforts at reform will be made in vain.

We are calling on our colleagues at the State Central Committee to take the following actions at the September meeting or earlier: elect from the floor a newly constituted bylaws committee that will elect its own bylaws committee chair; hold a vote of no confidence and elect a new Treasurer and a replacement for Audit Committee member Curt Braden and have the Audit and Fiscal Review Committees meet and elect their own chairs as required by the bylaws; reject the chairman's plans to reorganize the standing committees as it violates policy; demand the accounting firm performing the current audit be replaced with a new firm that does not have conflicts of interest with Jane Timken and Bob Paduchik and expand the scope of the audit to 2017; and finally, either have the DeWine campaign return the value given to him by the ORP in 2021 or contribute an equal amount to the other two gubernatorial candidates Renacci and Blystone.

Even if the Committee takes these bare minimum steps, Ohio Republicans' confidence in the ORP will still not be restored because the ORP has broken the public trust for too long and the problems too severe and deeply systemic. Because the State Central Committee and its current and past chairmen have proven they are incapable of internal control, I believe Ohio Republicans must now exercise their lawful authority and take on the responsibility of reforming the party using legal mechanisms found in Ohio Revised Code Title 35. I believe the remedy is a statewide convention called for by the majority of county central committees. A convention in March of 2022 can legally reverse any primary endorsements made by the State Central Committee, can legally review and amend ORP bylaws, and can legally elect a new chairman. I also believe that Title 35 needs to be amended to require this state wide convention be held every 2 years before every gubernatorial and every presidential primary. Other states have conventions every year. Ohio has not had one in 40 years. I believe this is a big reason Ohio

politics is so corrupt. I believe this is the only way the people can gain back control over the party and make the Ohio Republican Party great again. I want a Republican Party people can be proud of, don't you? A Republican Revolution in Ohio is long overdue and this is how we do it.

I encourage everyone here today to take these solutions back to your county parties and let them know you are a Malcontent, too. Demand the Republican Revolution starts right now in your county and together we can Make Ohio Great Again.

JoAnn will now talk more about a statewide convention.

#### JOANN'S PART

I am JoAnn Campbell and I represent the Ohio Republican Party State Central Committee District 22, Medina County. I am a Malcontent, too, and I believe the ORP needs to immediately act upon Laura's recommendations and show they are willing to tackle reform. But even though they sound serious, even Laura's recommendations are too little, too late. And the party has proven it cannot be trusted at all to address these issues. That is why I believe Ohio needs a state wide convention.

Ohio Revised Code Title 35 provides that if a majority of county central committees – 45 of them – pass resolutions calling for a state wide convention, the Ohio Republican Party is legally obligated to arrange one. County central committees have to pass the same resolution that would include the purpose of and the timing for the convention. The purpose would be to review and amend the bylaws, set endorsement policy that would supersede prior policy, and elect a new chairman. These actions are all legally allowed by Title 35. Laura and I believe Ohio Republicans need to take these measures in order to reform the party because it has proven it will not reform itself.

Who would attend the convention? Title 35 provides that 500 delegates from across Ohio would be named by county executive committees. Each county would be apportioned a number of delegates based upon the number of voters in the last gubernatorial election. For example, if Medina county had 4% of the voters in the 2018 election, they would get 4% of the 500 delegates. Along with the delegates, State Central Committee members, all Republican House and Senate members, and members of the state administration like governor and secretary of state would be in attendance. It is all perfectly legal and in Ohio Revised Code.

There are several groups across Ohio who are working on writing resolutions and getting the word out and the idea is spreading. I believe after today, it is going to spread like wildfire and there will be a race to see which county is the first to pass the resolution. But the trick is, 45 counties have to pass an identical resolution that has to be simple and to the point. There are deadlines to be met if we want to have a convention in March 2022. I am currently working with a small group of patriots who have this all figured out and are working in a professional lawful manner. I am asking you to contact either me or Laura for more information or to pass our contact information on to your county party leadership. And encourage them to get this resolution on the agenda of your next county central committee meeting.

Let's look at this crisis as an opportunity to do something positive that will Make Ohio Great Again. We not only need to hold corrupt politicians accountable; we need to take action that will make things work better for everyone. So take action now, join the Malcontents, and call for a convention. It's time for a Republican Revolution in Ohio!