

Testimony:

Chairwoman Anielski, Vice-Chair Hambley, Ranking Member Holmes and members of the House State and Local Government Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 585, the gun-control bill by Representative Mike Henne and Governor Kasich.

I want to express my core fundamental belief of the truth, which is that Criminals DO NOT obey laws. This is a fact that has been proven over and over again throughout history.

This is obvious “common-sense”, which is being undermined when one takes a “knee-jerk” reaction in order to “do something” in the wake of a tragedy, such as a school shooting. This type of ‘emotional knee-jerk’ reaction, and reasoning, which in scope, is way beyond ridiculous, when the legislators takes the pen to paper to convict the innocent, law abiding citizens, by infringing on their “GOD Endowed Rights” as set forth in the Constitution. When this legislative body succumbs to the pressure of hysteria, in which the hysterical “demands” that the “innocent, law abiding, citizens” must pay for the evil mania of others, is preposterous. When legislators mandate to “infringe” or attempt to shred the God given rights as set forth there-in the Constitution, that in itself, will only result in the total collapse of this free state, and society that we now live. The proponents of this “hysterical movement”, stems from children, without full brain or emotional development, or the knowledge of the history of this nation, in regards to The Bill of Rights, and the Constitution in it’s entirety. They have no knowledge as to the “WHY” our founding fathers framed the Constitution in the context in which they did. They quit teaching our children history, and/or the historical time frame, context or the demographics, nor race, or creed of the people whom were slaughtered to secure this great nation in which we live in the pursuit of happiness. No, the children, and young adults today, have not been taught that “we being the legal law abiding citizens”, have inalienable rights manifested under the Constitution. Therefor, if one doesn’t even know they have rights, it is much easier to take them away, and continue to advance the political agenda driven by corruption and greed, of which is still going on today, including some in this body who are currently under FBI investigation.

I’m here to stand in direct opposition of this “Constitution INFRINGING and SHREDDING Legislation”, that serves only to continue to promote the current corruption and racism that is still alive and well in this country. We have come such a long way in uniting the division in this nation, from the rights held there-in the Constitution, but what you are currently embarking on now, will only serve to continue your agenda of division of the diversity of races, creed, and all for the love of money, greed, political positioning and corruption.

My wife is the great-grand daughter of a Cherokee Indian. Her great-grandmother was one of the few that survived the atrocities, coming through the Trail of Tears. The Trail of Tears, which was the Greatest Genocide that ever took place on this soil, taking thousands of Native American Indian Lives. The Native American Indian population, was 15 Million when Columbus arrived in 1492, and by the end of the Trail of Tears, there were less then 238,000 Native American Indians left. History goes on to tell us, that after the slaughter of the Indian population, then the ‘Indian Patrollers’, went after the Black Slaves. In the South before the Revolution, a class of armed white civilians was employed by the Colonial courts to serve as “searchers,” not just to track down fugitive slaves, but to detain freed blacks. In just a matter of decades, those same white settlers tasked themselves with eradicating the Native populations, would soon be used as the basis for “slave patrols.” Slave patrols were first utilized to return escaped slaves to their owners,

but after the Thirteenth Amendment ended the chattel slavery, freed Black people, so, after that, they no longer had monetary value to be taken alive. This was to out-right kill Black free-men for simply existing. And it is in this historical context that private white organized terrorist groups such as the Ku Klux Klan were founded and continued to grow.

I hope you are starting to see the “WHY” in the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment, in addition to the “TYRANNY” that our for-fathers (the framers of the Constitution) intent was, which was to remain a “FREE” nation, and knowing as history has already proven with the original inhabitants of this land, (the Native American Indians), when the government disarms it’s people, what the cost are. There-in lye's ones ability to be able to actually live life in the pursuit of happiness....notice the key word is to be able to “LIVE”. One may say, “What about the lives of the school victim’s?” .... My answer is: “The Constitution Didn’t Commit The Evil” .... The Gun Didn’t Commit The Evil .....The Evil Man, Committed The Evil, So PUNISH The Evil MAN and NOT Every Law Abiding, Citizen in This Nation!

I’m convinced that every single law abiding citizen will be severely distraught over this legislation, when the rights of all legal, law abiding citizens are slowly, but surely being “infringed upon” and “stripped away.” The minorities need to also stand up and take notice “NOW” of what is really going on with-in in this chamber. Any person that votes “YES” on this legislation, is in all honesty, throwing away the foundation fabric of the history in which this great nation was founded on. Including all the blood of those throughout history, whom was tortured and died for the rights held so dear, there-in, the Constitution. My vow is to never forget....I implore each one of you to remember....Remember those Indian mothers whom had to kill their infant children, out of pure mercy, then to have to watch them suffering from being tortured, in dismemberment unto their ultimate deaths, from the monster’s under Andrew Jackson. Remember all the “Lynchings” from the KKK. Remember all those who were falsely accused of committing heinous crimes, and hung up a tree for the world to see. This is a very real history, and for many still continues today. When man is willing to put their faith in this corruptible government system for their “said” protection, one already “KNOWS” this is nothing but a political vice to use for their own corruptible, political positioning for their next run for office. Do NOT Be Deceived, we your constituents are watching and taking notes, as to whom votes in support of this CONSTITUTION DESTROYING LEGISLATION, and who STANDS UP and FIGHTS for their CONSTITUENTS RIGHT as clearly laid out and defined in the CONSTITUTION. When the legal law abiding citizens realize that even their “Due Process Rights” where one is “SUPPOSE TO BE INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY” turns into “GUILTY, UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT” is annihilated, as put forth in this legislation, their will be backlash, of which we haven’t seen .... Just remember the good old saying: "Those who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." We already know that history does repeat itself and maybe this time, if we take notice and pay attention NOW, we will wake up in time to stop this senseless and dangerous legislative action from destroying, and creating surmountable hardships on the people of our state! This old Cherokee wisdom to his grandson, may give some additional enlightenment on what is set before you. Think very wisely, because “We The People Are Watching”.

An old Cherokee told his grandson, “My son, there is a battle between two wolves inside us all. One is EVIL. It is anger, jealousy, greed, resentment, inferiority, lies and ego.” .... The other is GOOD. It is joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, empathy and truth.” .....The boy thought about it, and asked “Grandfather, which wolf wins?” The old man quietly replied, “The one you feed.”

In closing, I just want to remind you of what is already “blatantly” spelled out in complete opposition with the Constitution as follows:

Breaking down this legislation, into further “Common Sense” in which we already know that criminals do not obey the laws. Even Dianne Feinstein said herself that no new laws will prevent mass killers.

So, the simple, underlying truth is that a mind that premeditates the murder of innocent fellow humans is not one to be deterred by the propositions of House Bill 585.

The background check system has proven to be a failure through countless mass-shooting tragedies.

Armor piercing handgun cartridges haven’t been used in violent crimes in Ohio, and nearly any rifle cartridge is capable of defeating armor.

Nor have bump-stocks been used in the commission of a crime in the state of Ohio.

In regards to these issues, HB585 is an Unconstitutional “solution” in search of a problem!

However, perhaps the most egregious part of HB585 is the destruction of due process via “ex parte” hearings and even the emergency protection orders themselves, inflicting intentional hardships, both financial and emotional.

America was founded on the fundamental jurisprudence doctrines of “innocent until proven guilty” and due process.

HB585 infringes upon those doctrines when it infringes on our 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendment rights.

The Ohio state Constitution is just as clear in Article 1, subsection 10:

“In any trial, in any court, the party accused shall be allowed to appear and defend in person and with counsel; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof; to meet the witnesses face to face, and to have compulsory process to procure the attendance of witnesses in his behalf, and a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county in which the offense is alleged to have been committed; but provision may be made by law for the taking of the deposition by the accused or by the state, to be used for or against the accused, of any witness whose attendance can not be had at the trial, always securing to the accused means and the opportunity to be present in person and with

counsel at the taking of such deposition, and to examine the witness face to face as fully and in the same manner as if in court.”

This legislation will not increase public safety. Rather, it will only further embolden the criminal class.

Please publicly oppose it, block it in committee and vote NO at every opportunity.

Thank you,

Thomas Reed