

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 6/8/2020

Name: Elizabeth Zwilling

Are you representing: Yourself

Organization

Organization (If Applicable):

Position/Title:

Address: 3904 Eddystone Dr.

City: Cincinnati

State: Ohio

Zip:45251

Best Contact Telephone:513-484-9480

Email:fishonbyke@gmailcom

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 381

Specific Issue: Stand your Ground

Are you testifying as a: Proponent

Opponent

Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Written Testimony only

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I oppose this bill. Even considering the passing this bill while people all over the state are protesting for racial inequality is shameful. The American Bar Association urged the repeal of Stand your Ground laws in 2015. Self-defense is already allowed by laws in the state, there is no reason to add a stand your ground law. People can protect themselves, but retreat always needs to be the priority. Stand your ground laws lead to emotional decisions to be made without first retreating. The primary tenet of self-defense is to run or hide first and only attack when harm to self imminent. Trayon Martin was killed by George Zimmerman for walking in his neighborhood. The 911 dispatcher told George Zimmerman to not approach Trayon, he did anyway and killed an unarmed adolescent. Trayon did not attack George Zimmerman. There was no reason to approach

Trayon. We do not need to embolden citizens to take the law into their own hands. We do not need to repeat the tragedy of Trayon's death in Ohio. This law will increase homicide rates based on events in Florida. Between 2006 and 2015 in Florida, homicide rates increased 8.7%, with unlawful homicides accounting for the majority of the increase. We do not need armed vigilantism in the state of Ohio. We do not need laws that will disproportionately impact people of color. If a white shooter kills a black victim, the homicide is considered justifiable 11 times more often than when the shooter is black and the victim is white. Ahmaud Arbery is the victim of a misuse of the Stand your Ground law in Georgia. Ahmaud was running and the shooter assumed that he was a burglar. He was unarmed and not a risk to the men in the truck. Instead of the men reporting their concerns to law enforcement, these white vigilantes took the law into their own hands. Please do not vote for this bill. We do not need to have armed vigilantes in the state of Ohio. Listen to the people in the state calling for racial justice.

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*