

Ingrid White
1149 Regency Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43220

June 9, 2020

To: Representatives George Lang, Phil Plummer, and Dave Leland

RE: Written Testimony in opposition to HB 381

Dear Representatives Lang, Plummer, and Leland:

I am writing to express my firm opposition to HB 381, otherwise known as the “stand your ground” bill or the “Kill at will” bill.

I have always been opposed to the reckless endangerment of lives, but I am furious and beyond frustrated that your committee would think that taking up this measure at this very moment, during weeks of protest over the treatment of African American lives, is appropriate. It is not.

Did you not watch the video of the shooting of Ahmaud Arbery? The men who recorded that video believed they were within their rights under a “stand your ground” bill to the point that they actually filmed the event- believing it would prove their innocence. These were former law enforcement officers, and even *they* could not tell the difference between where this law ends and vigilantism begins.

I do not want the murder rates in Ohio to go up, as they have done in other states where this bill has become law. I want my fellow citizens to be able to enjoy their lives and freedom when they are out and about in public without fear.

I am a mother, and the wife of a proud Air Force Veteran who served his country for eight years, serving in Germany, Turkey, Italy, England, and the U.S. I lived with him on two Air Force bases and worked for the Air Force as a civilian employee. I strongly support our military and our law enforcement personnel. This bill puts all of us in danger – especially our law enforcement personnel and, because of the ongoing problems with racism in the U.S., especially persons of color.

Thank you,

Ingrid White