

June 9, 2020

Chairman Rep George Lang, Vice Chair Rep Phil Plummer, and members of the Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Kathy Hayman. I am a concerned Ohio citizen. As a mother of three and a middle school employee who serves over 720 students, including many black students whose lives are already at higher risk in this country I am strongly opposed to HB 381.

As we fight for Black Lives Matter now and I have listened to our youth speak out, I am more convinced than ever that what we need is reform in all departments of authority when it comes to justice for all and not additional laws that promote violence. Working with black students who are ages 11-14 I realize now more than ever that we must embrace their anger and respond with compassion and action that acknowledges the oppression that we cannot deny exists in America. We need real solutions that address the fact that their parents, grandparents, uncles, cousins, friends have lost and continue to lose their lives due to laws like Stand Your Ground. Where is the law enforcement for innocent until PROVEN guilty?

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this not just harmful, but detrimental bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

I will now take any questions you may have.

Kathy Hayman