

My name is Lisa Tharp, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 and I would like to submit my written opposition testimony against House Bill 585 for entry into the public record at Thursday's Opponent Testimony Hearing on HB585. I am unable to be in the hearing on Thursday but would request that this testimony be added into the public records as an opposition to this bill.

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 am a 63 year old woman of faith and I currently hold NRA certifications as a pistol instructor and a Range Safety Officer. I was 55 years old before I ever held or shot a pistol. I now am Leader of a "The Well Armed Woman" Chapter near Utica, Ohio and Co-leader of the Mount Vernon Ohio Chapter. We teach women how to properly and safely handle a firearm. Not only that, but we encourage, empower and educate women of all ages (21 and up) and all walks of life. Often times this includes women who have been victims. Victims of domestic violence or victims of other various crimes. I believe that ALL women need the opportunity to learn to defend themselves in order to never be victims, or to never be a victim again.