

Dear Chairman Hambley and Ranking Chairman Brown and Members of the Civil Justice Committee.

This testimony is in opposition to SB 383 – the Stand Your Ground Bill

Please do not let the very dangerous Stand Your Ground SB 383 go any further. This bill will cost lives in Ohio.

This type of legislation allows a person to shoot to kill in public, even if there is a clear and safe alternative. This endangers the person who is the intended target, whether they are armed or unarmed, as well as lives of anyone and everyone in the vicinity.

The increase in firearm homicide and injuries in Stand Your Ground states is a proven fact, with at least 30 people nationwide killed every month as a result of these dangerous laws. No study shows that Stand Your Ground laws deter crime. They allow anyone to shoot first.

Ohio's current "duty to retreat" provisions are sufficient as they stand.

Please abandon this very dangerous SB 383 and do not allow it to progress any further. Our current environment has magnified the fragility and sanctity of human life in our state. Let's pass legislation that will save lives, not cost lives.