

I am opposed to the HB 381 Stand Your Ground. Stand your ground bills are dangerous and threaten public safety by encouraging armed vigilantism. At least 30 people nationwide are killed each month as a result of Stand Your Ground laws¹, does Ohio really want to continue and add to this trend. Do the members of this committee want to further endanger the citizens of Ohio? We are currently living in a pandemic, do the members on this committee want to continue to make Ohioans life harder? Additionally, studies do not show that the broadening self-defense laws will deter crime². What good will come of this law then? Only further suffering and death of Ohioans.

The idea that a person can kill another person in a public area, instead of walking away from danger, **goes against the oaths that I have taken as a physician, "First do no harm"**. Stand Your Ground encourages the escalation of violence in situations that could otherwise be defused. I have a respect for human life, do the members of this committee?

Thank you for your time.

Clare Crosh

References

1. McClellan C, Tekin, E. Stand Your Ground laws, homicides, and injuries. Journal of Human Resources. 2017; 52(3): 621-653.
2. Cheng C, Hoekstra M. Does strengthening self-defense law deter crime or escalate violence? Evidence from castle doctrine. National Bureau of Economic Research. 2012. See also: Gius M. The relationship between stand-your-ground laws and crime: A state-level analysis. The Social Science Journal. 2016; 53(3): 329-338