

**Date:** 10 June 2020

**Name:** Tessa Gaffney

**Representing:** Myself

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**Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list?**

Yes

**Business before the committee (Bill/Resolution #):** HB 381

**Specific Issue:** Stand Your Ground

**Testifying as:** Opponent

**Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material?**      Yes

**Testimony:**

I oppose HB381 because it increases homicide rates and has no effect on decreasing violent crime. "Stand Your Ground" laws have been consistently used to justify the deaths of Black men and women by white men claiming to be acting in self-defense, while almost never in the reverse. There is a racial bias in our collective understanding of "objectively reasonable" fear. It is shameful to even consider supporting this bill, ESPECIALLY while Ohioans march for Black lives outside the Statehouse.