

Testimony on Senate Bill 383
Government and Oversight Reform Committee

Submitted by:
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Chair Coley, Vice-chair Huffman, Ranking Member Craig and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to SB383. I am a concerned citizen who loves her city, state, and country, but above all chooses to love her neighbors. I oppose this bill because it will make Ohioans less safe.

I am concerned about the introduction of legislation that has no supporting evidence that it would improve conditions for Ohio citizens and in fact has evidence that it would actually work toward our detriment. In fact, a summary of the report from The Rand Corporation, [The Science of Gun Policy: A Critical Synthesis of Research Evidence on the Effects of Gun Policies in the United States, Second Edition \(2020\)](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2088-1.html), makes the following statements*:

Under Key findings:

“There is supportive evidence that stand-your-ground laws are associated with increases in firearm homicides and moderate evidence that they increase the total number of homicides.”

Under Recommendations:

“States with stand-your-ground laws should consider repealing them as a strategy for reducing firearm homicides.”

Instead of heeding the evidence that stand your ground laws should be repealed, Ohio appears to be running in the opposite direction. It is irresponsible and makes our citizens less safe. Simply put, stand your ground laws get used to justify the unjustifiable. For these reasons I **strongly oppose SB383**.

*https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2088-1.html