

Testimony on Senate Bill 383
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Joanie Calem

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 Senate Bill 383.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Joanie Calem and I am a Ohio citizen and voter. I am very concerned about SB 383. This bill, that will allow people to shoot to kill other people in public, even when there is a clear and safe choice to do something else, will increase the gun violence and death by shooting in Ohio. States that have passed Stand Your Ground laws have seen escalated violence in situations that could be defused in other ways. Teaching our public how to de-escalate potentially violent situations saves lives and creates a safer state. Allowing people to carry guns and shoot in public will do nothing to create a safer state. Analysis of these laws by the American Bar Association has also found that the application of Stand Your Ground laws is "unpredictable, uneven, and results in racial disparities." Ohio does not need more racial disparity, we need to work to create racial equity, that will lead to less gun violence, not more. Please do not pass SB 383. It will make Ohio less safe, not more safe.

Joanie Calem