

Testimony on Senate Bill 383
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Tom Herr

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.

My name is Tom Herr and I am a Columbus resident of over 30 years and a Franklin County voter. I am a Vietnam era veteran who is concerned by the continued increase in gun violence since I have lived here.

The first question this committee should ask is what will this bill do to decrease gun violence in Ohio. The clear answer is - nothing. Every state that has passed any Stand Your Ground laws has shown a significant increase in gun violence. The reason for this is that it allows the person to merely claim they felt their life was in danger. This bill is a great example of what The Columbus Dispatch labeled frivolous legislation, unnecessary and unimportant compared to all the bigger issues needing to be addressed in Ohio. There has been little to no testimony on any injustices that this legislation is needed to address. Our current form of justice has been very sufficient in determining guilt or innocence. One can only think if it isn't broke, why fix it. I urge this committee to vote against this frivolous legislation.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Herr.

Tom Herr