

GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND REFORM COMMITTEE

OPPOSITION TESTIMONY SB 383

STAND YOUR GROUND

Dec. 8, 2020,

To Chairman Coley and Committee Members,

I am a resident of Stark County, Ohio and I strongly oppose SB 383. Current Ohio law on already provides fair justice in self-defense situations. I have not seen or heard any proponent of this bill cite any court decision in Ohio where the application of a reasonable duty to retreat resulted in an injustice. This bill would prevent the court from even considering the possibility of retreat before shooting. A court would have to acquit anyone who claimed self-defense. This rewards trigger-happy vigilantes with a free pass to shoot. As a result, innocent people will be shot. In Florida, 68% of the Stand Your Ground victims were not armed. Experience has shown that Stand Your Ground makes people feel that they can escalate any argument into a shooting.

Please stop SB 383.

Thank you,

Kate Dieble