

Chair LeRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland and members of the Criminal Justice Committee: My name is Lynn Buffington and I live in Beavercreek, near Dayton. I respectfully ask, again, that you do not pass HB 22 out of committee.

HB 22 is a solution in search of a problem. This unneeded legislation would create new and ill-defined crimes. One of the most dangerous aspects of HB 22 is that the proposed provisions are vague enough that they would invite inconsistent application and invite overreach.

For example, Sub HB 22 makes it illegal to interfere with or obstruct a law enforcement officer in a manner that inhibits or restricts the law enforcement officer's control of a subject or detainee. Almost anything a person might do when out in public within earshot of a police officer could then be construed to be illegal. A parent shouting a caution to their child, "watch out!" could distract a police officer nearby. Legislators should certainly not pass legislation that could inadvertently make responsible parenting a crime. You might say the law would never be applied in that way, but there are many examples of mis-use and abuse of the law.

Ohioans do not want unfair legislation with unintended consequences that will be challenged in court, wasting money and time in legal proceedings.

Please do not pass HB 22 out of committee. Thank you.