

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee,

Thank you for hearing my proponent testimony for House Bill 62. We live in a time of feel-good gun legislation. The passing of Laws that have larger negative impacts, instead of the intended positive public safety results that were planned.

The constitution is clear – 27 words that define our rights to personal protection, safety, security and the ability to take care of our families.

Yet there are those throughout history who work, plan and scheme to restrict those rights. A timeline of gun control demonstrates that once you are singled out based on color, religion or type of firearm selected to own, the gun grabbers are relentless.

This is a matter of states' rights against federal rights. The current Washington leadership is making it a priority to strip United States citizens of what should be constitutionally protected rights. We are watching an attack on our election integrity, on our first amendment right of free speech and now on our second amendment right to "keep and bear arms".

Ohio – by taking this stand, provides one more layer of protection to her citizens.

New York and the citizens of New York City have firearms so regulated that an instructor or a teacher has to call the police and notify them that the trainer and their guns are moving from their household to the range. That same instructor cannot take her guns out of the state to train in the other 49; they are regulated to such an extent that they cannot leave the state.

Gun laws throughout American history have been written waiting for the time to push them through. They have been written to stop the law-abiding citizens from doing something that a criminal broke the law to initiate. They have been feel-good, do something, do anything type laws.

The National Firearms Act (NFA) of 1934 was brought to you because of two crime families in Chicago that were warring with one another. One wanted to 'own the town' so they stole guns from the US Postal Service and used those guns in the commission of a crime. The crimes included stolen police cars, stolen police uniforms and performing a raid on the other faction. In that raid they lined up 7 members of George 'Bugs' Moran bootlegging gang and shot them execution style.

The law-abiding citizens of the United States were then subjected to restrictions and regulations regarding fully automatic firearms, short barreled rifles and shotguns, and the restrictions and licensing of suppressors.

Crimes committed in 1962 and 1968 with the killing of high-profile politicians and important American figures - John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, brought the Gun Control Act of 1968. This included regulations on imported guns, expanding the gun dealer licensing and recordkeeping requirements, and placed specific limitations on the sale of handguns.

Had those laws been in place before these horrific killings, would it have stopped them? Oswald used a fake ID to buy his gun through the mail, but as he was a not prohibited person, the gun could have been acquired through a federally licensed firearms dealer using his real information. Ray was an escaped

convict at the time of the King murder; one can only assume that another layer of gun laws would have done nothing to deter him. Sirhan Sirhan was an illegal alien who broke 3 California laws prior to killing R.F. Kennedy.

Gun laws are now being written and shelved in the event of another horrific yet newsworthy event. These laws are not written as a problem-solving device; instead, they are an agenda for our nation just waiting for an opportunity to be a feel-good fix of the day.

I fight for Second Amendment rights because I know that the law abiding will follow the laws as they are written and will blindly allow the government to disarm them. I stand for all those people who never know when or where they may need the tools of self-defense, and I stand so that they can have them when they need them and so people who just want to live their lives calmly, peaceably and in the pursuit of happiness as they go about their daily activities.

I fight for the Second Amendment against the law breakers. I am a lady of a certain age. I know that criminals are bigger, stronger and faster than I am. I know that criminals get to pick the time and the place and all the circumstances of an attack on me. And I only get to pick (should the law allow it), the tool of self-defense and the amount of training that I have with that tool.

Ohio was the 45th state to pass CHL or Concealed Carry. Currently within Ohio there are 32 Counties, 3 Townships and 1 City who have passed Second Amendment Sanctuary legislation. This wave of smaller municipalities shows that they are ready for you to take action for the state.

I urge you to create this barrier, create this line in the sand against government overreach. Because I know, and you know, it's not IF they come after our guns, it's WHEN they come after our guns. I urge you to support this bill, draw that line, let the government and the citizens of Ohio know where they stand when it comes to *a well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed*. Stop the infringement at the Ohio border.

This concludes my testimony on House Bill 62, I will take any questions you may have for me.

Sincerely,

Amanda Suffecool