

Testimony on HB62

House State and Local Government Committee

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Submitted by:
Andrea Kovesdi

Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing my written testimony in opposition to House Bill 62. My name is Andrea Kovesdi and I have lived in Ohio all of my nearly 55 years. My husband and I are small business owners living in Northeast Ohio with two adult children. I have written testimony on several gun bills beginning in the last General Assembly. Let's just say that you guys are keeping me busy.

As for HB62, otherwise known as the Ohio Second Amendment Safe Haven Act, I struggle to see how the Second Amendment doesn't already have a so-called safe haven right here in our state. Look around! Does anyone seriously believe that the Second Amendment is under attack?! Gun owners and activists in Ohio enjoy **many** freedoms and it's those freedoms that are jeopardizing the rest of us.

Ohio has some of the weakest gun laws in the country. The rate of gun deaths in our state has increased 34% in the past decade-that's TWICE THE RATE as the national average over the same time period. To the proponents of this bill, no one is coming to take your guns. The fact is that guns have already taken far too many lives in Ohio and in the US.

HB62 jeopardizes public safety in Ohio even further. It would also expose Ohio law enforcement officers to costly lawsuits and possibly the loss of their jobs. This bill is unnecessary, unhelpful and likely unconstitutional.