

**Testimony on House Bill 62**  
House State and Local Government Committee  
June 9, 2021

Submitted by:  
Erin Hammans Carpenter

Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to House Bill 62.

As a citizen of Ohio, mother, wife, daughter, sister and friend, I urge you to oppose this very dangerous and unconstitutional bill that would undermine the rule of law in our state, and jeopardize the safety of everyone who calls Ohio home.

Blocking the enforcement of federal gun laws in service of "states' rights" is a tactic that was unanimously and unambiguously rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court when southern states tried to resist efforts to dismantle Jim Crow laws. Modern nullification proposals have been declared unconstitutional. The fact remains: federal laws are the supreme law of the land.

The provisions of HB 62 that could be enforced would bring a serious public safety risk to Ohio citizens. It would tie the hands of local police and prosecutors trying to enforce public safety laws. It would prevent our local authorities from accessing federal resources for local gun crimes. It would undermine the rule of law and encourage criminal activity. And finally, it would send a confusing message to law-abiding gun owners who may expose themselves to criminal liability.

HB 62 is out of alignment with our values in the State of Ohio, and moves us backwards in our progress towards public safety. Please, vote no on this dangerously out of touch bill.

Sincerely,  
Erin Hammans Carpenter