



**JEAN SCHMIDT
STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chairman Thomas, Ranking Member Forhan, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee, thank you for allowing Representative Loychik and I to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 51, the Second Amendment Preservation Act.

This is a straightforward bill that will ensure Ohioan's Second Amendment rights are not infringed. This bill eliminates references of the United States Code as they relate to gun laws in Ohio. The ATF's recent attempt to curtail second-amendment rights by classifying legal handguns as illegal short-barrel rifles was a clear overreach of the federal government against law-abiding citizens. This bill helps to stand against these unlawful rules by ensuring that Ohio gun law is the standard for those who reside in Ohio.

House Bill 51 also ensures that the federal government cannot use Ohio's resources to enforce those laws that are infringing on our second amendment rights. Our founders wrote the constitution to ensure that the states can act as a check against an overreaching federal government. This bill is a check against a government that seems to disregard our fundamental and constitutional rights.

This bill does not let those who break the law go free, nor does it allow for a lawless society. It simply puts power back to the states, and back to the people. We cannot sit idly by when our rights are infringed. It is time for Ohio to take a stand.