

Opposition Testimony to HB 51

By
Mike Halaiko

Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Forhan, and members of The Government Oversight Committee,

My name is Mike Halaiko, and I am a retired Educator with over forty years of experience in Ohio Public and Private Schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify today in opposition to HB 51.

I am opposed to HB 51 for the following reasons:

- 1) This bill will allow an abuser, convicted of domestic violence or under domestic violence restraining order, to be deemed a "qualifying adult" {ORC sec. 2923.111(A)(2)(B)} who could carry a concealed firearm without a permit. Such domestic abusers are currently prohibited from permit less carry in Ohio by virtue of current Ohio law which adopts the federal gun disability list. {18 USC sec. 922(g)} Please try to place yourselves in the shoes of a domestic abuse victim, when considering this bill. We should be passing more bills to protect our citizens. Bills that protect and defend citizens that find themselves in the dire circumstances of domestic abuse.
- 2) This bill will expose Ohio political subdivisions employing law enforcement officers to civil suit and fines of \$50,000 per incident for enforcing federal gun regulations in the state.
- 3) This bill will bar the state from hiring qualified, former federal law enforcement officers who in the past had enforced federal gun regulations.
- 4) And this bill will fuel anti-government sentiment and encourage violence.

In conclusion, I am opposed to HB 51, and any bills that seek to ignore Federal bills and mandates. We are first and foremost, The United States of America. Ohio only weakens itself by not protecting its citizens with bills like HB 51. It is your responsibility as Legislators to protect all of our citizens. We are not a Second Amendment Sanctuary State. All of you have taken oaths of office to preserve and defend The Constitution, in its entirety, not just part of it.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify, and I am happy to try to answer any questions you may have.