

Ohio House Bill 51 would ban state and local law enforcement of a wide range of federal gun control, past, present, and future.

Rep. Mike Loychik (R) and Rep. Jean Schmidt (R) introduced House Bill 51 (HB51) in February. The “Second Amendment Preservation Act” will ban state and local law enforcement officers from enforcing any past, present, or future federal “acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, rules, regulations, statutes, or ordinances” that regulate guns in any way.

The verbiage used in this bill is exceptionally frightening, “All federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, rules, and regulations, regardless of whether they were enacted before or after the enactment of this section, that infringes on the people’s right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Section 4 of Article I, Ohio Constitution, shall be invalid to this state, shall not be recognized by this state, shall be specifically rejected by this state, and shall not be enforced by this state.”

This also means that under this bill, any federal laws that would work to enact common sense gun laws, expand background checks, introduce red flag laws, and the banning of high-capacity assault weapons and magazines would not be enforced in the state of Ohio.

As the Co-Chairs of the Euclid HOPE Task Force, a group that came together to reduce gun violence in our community, we find this bill offensive and unsafe. According to Euclid Police data gathered in 2022, there were 63 incidents where an individual used a firearm to shoot a victim and 13 homicides by firearm. In 2022 Euclid officers seized 328 weapons compared to 146 in 2019. Guns and gun deaths are increasing in our city, state, and country! It goes further than acts of violence in our community; innocent human beings of all ages, races, and sexual orientations are being targeted and shot at schools, grocery stores, places of worship, college campuses, nightclubs, and concerts all across our country!

We, the Co-chairs of the Euclid HOPE Task Force, will continue encouraging a culture of responsible gun ownership with proper state and federal regulations. We know that gun violence is preventable, and we’re committed to keeping children, families, and all humans safe. It is because of these core principles that we believe so firmly in that we oppose House Bill 51.

Thank you,

Taneika Hill, Pam Turos, and Emily Holody

Co-Chairs of the Euclid HOPE Task Force