

House Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony to HB 51: 2nd Amendment Sanctuary State

Submitted by Dan Levensgood
4/14/2021

To the Chair, Ranking Member and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to House Bill 51.

I am strongly opposed to HB 51. We are seeing a rise in the growth of anti-government sentiment in this country and this bill will only encourage anti-government violence. Supporters of the 2nd Amendment claim they uphold the US Constitution. But the Constitution makes it clear that federal laws supersede state laws. The supporters of this bill only seem to want to preserve the Constitution when it comes to guns.

As a businessman in Stark County, I object to the money that will be wasted as a result of this bill. Federal Courts have already ruled a similar law in Missouri to be unconstitutional. Why should we waste Ohio tax dollars defending a law that will surely be struck down? Ohio taxpayers will also be paying for the penalties stipulated in the bill (\$50,000 per incident) that our police will be hit with for enforcing federal laws. The bill also allows our local political sub-entities to be sued for enforcing federal laws. More tax dollars wasted!

I urge you to vote No on HB 51.

Thank you,
Dan Levensgood