

Committee Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Forhan and Committee Members:

My name is John Foley. I am a concerned citizen and retired Educator extremely disturbed by gun violence that is permeating my city, state, and country. I want to voice my strong opposition to HB 51. It will add to the dangerous policies Ohio has adopted regarding guns and will only make Ohio a more dangerous place to live and conduct business.

I am sure you are aware that on March 7 a federal judge ruled the identical bill in Missouri was unconstitutional and preempted by the US Constitution's supremacy clause. As our state legislature prohibits local control of gun legislation through home rule provisions it is hypocritical to think the State of Ohio is exempt from Federal legislation in the same vein.

This legislation will only add to the poor use of taxpayer dollars to defend a bill that has already been ruled unconstitutional.

HB51 is not only unconstitutional it is confusing and puts law enforcement in the middle of confusing politics regarding enforcement.

I am angry that the sponsors of this bill will put Ohioans at risk for continued gun violence and see our safety as low priority. I urge you to oppose this terrible piece of legislation and stand up for a safer Ohio.

Working for a safer Ohio,

John Foley