

**Government Oversight Committee**  
**Opposition Testimony HB 51**  
**By Lynne S. Dragomier**

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.

As a mother, grandmother and retired corporate and health care executive, living in Stark County, I oppose HB 51. This bill is dangerous to Ohioans. It will nullify existing and future federal gun safety laws, like background checks, age limits for owning AR-15s and Red Flag laws. It will allow more people who should not have guns to carry them. This is clearly a Public Health issue. We already lose **1,702** people from guns in Ohio each year, and gun violence is the leading cause of death of children in our state. (CDC Underlying Cause of Death, 2018-2021.)

This bill undermines the rule of law, making Ohioans less safe where we live, learn, work, play and pray.

This bill is especially dangerous to women. Under current federal law, people convicted of abuse cannot concealed carry. If this bill passes, Ohio's state law will be the "law of the land" and it only disqualifies abusers from carrying a gun if they are convicted of Felony abuse. To be a Felony charge they must have caused "serious physical harm- like incapacity, disfigurement or injury causing prolonged intractable pain" [ORC 2901.01(A)(5)]. As long as the victim can heal from their injuries (ex: broken bones) it's only a Misdemeanor and the abuser could still carry a gun.

HB51 is anti-police. It will penalize our hard-working police with \$50,000 fines (per incident) for following US law. It will subject not only individual police but our cities, townships, counties, etc. to lawsuits if they follow federal law. We taxpayers will pick up the bill.

You should not waste taxpayer dollars on a bill that will surely be found to be unconstitutional.

I do not believe Ohioans are extremists. Please stop this extreme bill.

Thank you, Lynne S. Dragomier