

March 12, 2023

To: Committee Chair Peterson
Vice Chair Thomas
Ranking Member Forhan
Committee Members

My name is Judy Harbaugh and I am a concerned citizen who cares deeply about the safety of our communities and the impact gun violence is having on our children and families.

I am writing you to ask you to **oppose HB51**, which is particularly dangerous for women. According to Everytown's research, each month 70 women are shot and killed by an intimate partner. Nearly 1 million report they have been shot or shot at by an intimate partner.

HB51 will allow an abuser convicted of domestic violence or under a domestic violence restraining order to be deemed a qualifying adult (ORC sec. 2923.111(A)(2)(B) who can carry a concealed firearm without a permit.

This bill also puts our law enforcement in greater danger since domestic violence calls are often the most dangerous for police. With gun ownership and gun violence increasing in our state, I am angry that the sponsors of this bill feel that protecting women and law enforcement is not a priority as this bill clearly demonstrates.

How does this make any sense to someone who is fighting for her safety and that of her children?

Please oppose this dangerous bill!!

Respectfully,

Judy Harbaugh