

Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony: HB 51
Submitted by Alexandra Hubbard

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'm a school psychologist working in K-12 public schools in NE Ohio and I vote regularly. I am writing to strongly oppose HB51. *Even if you modify this bill or substitute a similar bill, it will make our families less safe.*

As a school psychologist, the safety and mental health of public school students is of utmost importance to me. Children and teens in Ohio are being exposed to ever increasing amounts of gun violence. Gun violence can leave lasting emotional scars on our children. [1] The emotional and physical trauma they are experiencing is a terrible thing for both the victims and our state. We must do everything we can to reduce the astounding levels of gun violence in our communities.

If you pass HB 51, important federal safeguards (such as the federal "Disqualification List" for background checks) can be nullified by our state legislature. Those federal laws were put in place to help reduce gun violence. But the Ohio Legislature is sending us a message that the 2nd Amendment is more important than the health and safety of Ohioans young and old.

Gun violence is an increasingly important issue to younger votes like myself. You need to listen to the voices of Ohio voters and reject HB 51.

Thank you for your attention,
Alexandra Hubbard

1. [James Garbarino](#)¹, [Catherine P Bradshaw](#), [Joseph A Vorrasi](#). Mitigating the effects of gun violence on children and youth. 2002

