

May 23,2023

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

Members:

My name is Jennifer Georgic, and I am a concerned citizen and former CASA volunteer. I am sorry not to be in attendance today as I have been previously. I am presenting written testimony to ask you to please oppose HB51, which is particularly dangerous for women and their families. We know that women are most at risk from their abusers after there has been a DV restraining order put in place. HB51 will allow an abuser convicted of domestic violence or under a domestic violence restraining order to be deemed a qualifying adult who can purchase and carry a concealed firearm without a permit. This bill also puts our police in greater danger since dv calls are often the most dangerous for police when responding.

With gun violence increasing, can't we do better at protecting women and their children from abusers who have a history of violence? Why make it even easier for an abuser with access to a gun? I'm incredulous that the sponsors of this bill feel that protecting women and their families and the police and their families is not a priority as demonstrated by this incomprehensible bill.

I ask that you protect Ohioans, especially women and children... and law enforcement and their families by opposing HB51. The impact of Gun violence is far reaching, and the ripple effect affects us all.

Please make Ohioans safer.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Georgic