

Testimony of Mason Tumblin
Volunteer with Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
Ohio State House - Government Oversight Committee Hearing
October 10, 2023, 10:00AM

Good afternoon Chairman Peterson, Committee members, and staff. Thank you for hearing my testimony today.

My name is Mason Tumblin.

I am a student at Miami University and a concerned resident of Ohio.

I am testifying today because HB 51 is a dangerous gun bill that seeks to prohibit Ohio law enforcement and law enforcement agencies from assisting in enforcing certain federal gun laws.

A recent active emergency test at Miami University had been late in establishing that it was a test. I was in fear for my life because I thought an active shooting in my dorm was possible. This leads to my testimony in opposition to HB 51.

This bill poses several significant concerns:

1. HB 51 would erode public safety in Ohio by preventing law enforcement from cooperating with federal entities. This bill contains vague language that would encourage extremists to ignore common-sense gun laws they happen to disagree with because this bill purports to circumvent, and essentially nullify, certain current and future federal gun laws.
2. State nullification laws have been squarely rejected by the Supreme Court. Nullification laws that were passed by southern states resisting efforts to end segregation were shut down by the Supreme Court, as shown in *Brown V. Board of Education*. There have been more recent examples, such as Montana's nullification proposal being shut down by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals because it was unconstitutional.
3. HB 51 encourages criminal behavior. If enacted, this bill would undermine the rule of law and send false messages to criminals that they can bypass federal gun laws and that they will not be enforced. In other states that have passed similar policies, such as Missouri, law enforcement has expressed that this policy has made it more difficult to do their jobs. Nearly 60 police chiefs in Missouri supported a lawsuit in opposition to the law. The Second Amendment

Preservation Act was struck down on March 3rd, 2023, by a federal judge. The act was struckdown because it was ruled unconstitutional. \

I encourage members of the committee to vote **NO** on **HB 51**

This concludes my testimony. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be here today.