

Testimony on Sub House Bill 51
House Government Oversight Committee

Submitted by:

Tony D'Ambrosio

Committee Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphry and Committee Members:

My name is Tony D'Ambrosio, I am a concerned citizen and would like to voice my strong opposition to HB51. Attempting to pass this legislation is irresponsible and a waste of taxpayer resources. This legislation is unconstitutional and will make Ohio a more dangerous state. States that have passed similar bills are costing taxpayers money while their lawmakers attempt to defend the legislation. On March 7, 2023, a federal judge ruled Missouri's similar bill as unconstitutional and preempted by the federal government under the US Constitution's supremacy clause. U.S. District Judge Brain Wimes, stated in his ruling that "At best, this statute causes confusion among state law enforcement officials who are deputized for federal task operations, and at worst, is unconstitutional on its face." I ask that you please protect Ohioans and the United States Constitution by opposing this flawed piece of legislation. This bill will also expose Ohio political subdivisions employing law enforcement officers to civil suit and fines of \$50,000 per incident for enforcing federal gun regulations in state, bar the state from hiring qualified, former federal law enforcement officers who in the past had enforced federal gun regulations and fuel anti-government sentiment and encourage violence. Sub HB51 puts forth that a "dangerous ordinance" under Ohio law no longer includes "any firearm with an overall length of at least twenty-six inches." So, under Sub HB51—the larger the gun, at least above 26", the less subject to gun safety regulations it will be. The Ohio General Assembly continues to pass legislation that endangers its citizens under the guise of protecting their second amendment rights. Rather than promoting responsible firearm ownership, safety and

education it foments division and distrust and allows for more dangerous firearms to find their way into our communities and increases the likelihood of the reckless use of those firearms.

Please do not support HB51.

Sincerely,

Tony D'Ambrosio