



Ohio Gun Owners

Ohio's Grassroots Gun Rights Organization
3195 Dayton-Xenia Road, #900-306
Beavercreek, OH 45434

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 14, 2023

TO: Members of the Ohio House Government Oversight Committee

FROM: Rob Knisley, Political Director, Ohio Gun Owners

RE: House Bill 51 vs. Sub. House Bill 51

We believe that this substitute version is rock solid, accomplishes the underlying goal of hampering the implementation and enforcement of unconstitutional federal gun laws, and maintains the ability of state and local law enforcement to do their jobs.

With that being said, I'd like to take this opportunity to outline the areas that the 'As Introduced' version of HB 51 and Substitute HB 51 differ.

Sub. HB 51:

- Changes the definition of 'Handgun' to make sure that handguns that have an attached pistol brace are not considered dangerous ordnance and are indeed legal. (R.C. 2923.11(C), (L)(8)]
- Removes references to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). [R.C. 2923.11(F), (L)(7)]

- o By doing so, we are removing any semblance of control that unelected bureaucrats at the ATF have over changing the way our Revised Code is enforced by state and local law enforcement with mere strokes of a pen.
- Keeps current law in place with regard to 'Qualifying Adults,' with the caveat that the federal prohibited persons statute only applies as it is written in federal code at the time this bill becomes effective. [R.C. 2923.111(A) (2), (C) (e) (2)]
- Keeps certain references to federal law intact where the federal statute is more permissive than state law. [R.C. 2923.122(D) (3) (c)]
- Clarifies that Ohioans who can purchase and possess dangerous ordnance under current Ohio law will be able to do so after the enactment of Sub. HB 51. [R.C. 2923.17(C) (3-6)]
- Makes it clear that state and local law enforcement can use federal resources, including NIBIN and crime gun intelligence centers, to help investigate and prosecute violations of state law or of a political subdivision. [R.C. 2923.50(G)]
- Makes it clear that state and local law enforcement can refer violent felony cases to federal prosecutors as long as any potential weapons violation is merely ancillary to the prosecution. [R.C. 2923.50(I)]
- Permits the participation in inter-jurisdictional task forces for the purpose of enforcing laws that are not related to firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition. [R.C. 2923.50(J)]