

House Ways and Means Committee
Opposition Testimony: HB 189
Submitted by William Koltek

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.

My name is William Koltek. I am a 35-year resident and voter in the rural community of Louisville, Ohio. I strongly oppose HB 189.

Whereas I testified in support of HB 186, which would promote sales of safe storage products for guns, I OPPOSE applying tax exemptions to the sale of guns themselves. Research from well-respected centers, like Harvard (1) finds that states with more guns and looser gun laws have higher rates of gun homicide. Why should we take away state funds available for important state programs (like health care, food assistance, infrastructure) just to help the gun industry sell weapons? Please get your priorities right and vote No on HB 189.

Thank you,
William Koltek

References:

1. <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/hicrc/firearms-research/guns-and-death/>

