

**Opposition Testimony HB 189
Submitted by Matt Harmon**

To the Chairman, Ranking Member and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to address this committee.

As a father and businessman, I strongly oppose HB 189.

My wife and I have worked hard to provide our 2 young children with a beautiful home in the conservative community of Jackson Township in Stark County. We expect our taxes to be used to make our community and our family more safe. This bill would make Ohio less attractive to families and more attractive only to gun manufacturers and gun businesses.

Gun lobbyists testified that sales tax exemptions on guns would prove that our state is "Gun Friendly" and attract gun manufacturers and businesses to Ohio. Since gun deaths cost Ohio more than \$22.3 billion each year, of which \$493.7 million is paid by taxpayers, it hardly makes economic sense to have more guns manufactured and sold in our state. Additional guns bring more devastation with them than any so-called economic benefit.

Please stop this extreme bill.

Thank you,
Matt Harmon