

Opposition to SB58
Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee
Andrea Kovesdi
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Chairman Hoagland, Vice Chair Wilson and Ranking Member Craig, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony opposing Senate Bill 58. I think that we can agree that a weapon comes with inherent risks. The purpose of insurance is to protect a gun owner in case of an unintentional shooting wherein damage or injury occurs to another. Ohio has the 13th highest rate of gun injuries in the entire country! Nearly 4000 people are wounded by guns each year in Ohio at a cost of almost \$2000 per resident. *Everystat* Gun violence costs Ohio **\$22.3 billion** each year, of which **\$493.7 million** is paid by taxpayers.

The purpose of insurance is to protect a gun owner in case of an unintentional shooting wherein damage or injury occurs to another. I'm not sure how the sponsors or proponents of this bill can continue to use the term "responsible gun owner" when so much of their time is spent introducing bills that take all responsibility from gun owners! Your job as elected representatives is to represent the people of Ohio not the guns of Ohio.

As a lifelong Ohioan who has watched as this body has pillaged Ohio's gun laws, I ask you to stop and get serious about addressing the real problem of gun violence in our state that takes over 1700 lives a year and continues to rise while our lawmakers look the other way.