

Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Public Safety Committee
Proponent Testimony SB 273
Submitted By Ann Bobonick

To Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Weinstein, and Members of the Committee,
Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 273. My name is Ann Bobonick. I am a retired psychiatric nurse with both clinical hospital and teaching experience in the Cincinnati area. Since I retired from teaching at the University of Miami, I have been heavily involved in advocating for suicide prevention and the safe storage of guns. I support SB273 because it will decrease veteran suicide and save lives. Research and experience show that if a veteran does not have easy access to a gun at the time of suicide ideation, they can often be helped and will not go on to commit suicide.

In addition to saving veteran's lives, this bill will doubtlessly save many lives of family members and community members who are killed when a veteran commits a suicide/homicide.

As a Democrat, I am pleased that this is a bill that both Republicans and Democrats can get behind! It shows the bipartisan nature of suicide prevention!

I urge the committee to pass SB273.

Thank you,

Ann Bobonick