

Testimony on House Bill 248
Federalism Committee

Submitted by:
Mary Anne Crampton

Chair Becker, Vice Chair Stoltzfus, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 248.

Re: OH Federalism Committee HB 248 Hearing November 18, 2020

Dear Chair Rep John Becker and Members of the Federalism Committee -

As a mother, grandmother and citizen I am writing to you to express my fear for the safety of all Ohioans and my opposition to the scheduled hearing for HB 248.

Why am I afraid for Ohio and my family and friends who live here? Between 2009 and 2018, gun deaths increased 54% in Ohio compared to 18% nationwide and since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, suicides and homicides by firearm have dramatically escalated across the the state. HB 248 will do nothing to slow or reduce the rate of death by gun. In fact, ALL EVIDENCE indicates that passage of this bill will result in more gun deaths in our state.

Specifically, this bill will allow for more guns in more places in the hands of under-trained individuals without holding them accountable. For example:

HB 248 would allow more people to carry a deadly weapon in a school safety zone and reduce penalties for concealed carry violations in a school safety zone. We know that introducing guns in schools increases the risk of gun violence!

HB 248 would authorize any person—even one without any training in firearms—to carry a loaded firearm into a school if that person has written authorization from the school board.

HB 248 would allow business owners to "shoot someone who makes them nervous" by eliminating the duty to retreat from a business. Stand Your Ground provisions like this are associated with increases in firearm homicides and injuries, and no studies show that Stand Your Ground laws deter crime.

HB 248 would lower the minimum age to acquire a concealed weapons license from 21 to 18 years of age. Minimum age laws prevent young people and those around them from falling prey to preventable gun violence and suicide.

Introduction of HB248 during the lame duck session of the OH Congress is a clear capitulation to the interests of the gun lobby and violates your oath to protect the very people you represent. Please withdraw consideration of this very dangerous proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Crampton

Mary Anne Crampton

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: November 17, 2020

Name: Mary Anne Crampton

Are you representing: Yourself Organization _____

Organization (If Applicable):

Position/Title:

Address: 17895 Captains Cove

City: Lakewood State: Ohio Zip:44107

Best Contact Telephone: Email: momsomac@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 248

Specific Issue:

Are you testifying as a: Proponent _____ Opponent Interested Party _____

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require?

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I oppose House Bill 248.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.