

Distinguished Committee Members,

I am writing you today to express my unwavering support for HB62, the "Second Amendment Protection Act", which is before your committee.

The current federal administration continues to advance their false narratives on many issues, but none as egregiously as the recent and continued steps they are pursuing to enact firearms executive action and legislation which have no basis in fact or effectiveness. Rather than seeking demonstrably proven measures, such as mental health access and revamping the FBI national background check system to limit or prevent firearms access to potentially dangerous persons, the federal government's approach seems to seek criminalizing MILLIONS of peaceful, law-abiding citizens of not only Ohio, but the entire United States.

As a life-long Ohion and United States Army veteran, I vehemently oppose these unilateral attacks on our Constitutional freedoms. With his recent comment that "no Amendment is absolute", President Biden has affirmed his and the federal government's intent to slowly dismantle the Constitution piece-meal, thus subjugating the citizenry under authoritarian rule.

Regardless of whether you like/dislike, or own/don't own firearms, I strongly urge you to advance HB62. Make it clear to the federal government that Ohio is not only a free state, but also a defender of the Constitution which yourselves and I hold dear. DO NOT allow our state/local law enforcement and resources be used to advance an UNCONTITUTIONAL federal agenda. Before you cast your vote to decide the future of this legislation, ask yourselves this question:

"What will happen when they attempt to nullify or violate an Amendment I DO care about?"

Remember, the President has already declared "no Amendment is absolute". Don't fall victim to what millions of law-abiding gun owners once thought about their Constitutionally protected Second Amendment rights being attacked. Don't think for one minute that "the government would never do that". They have, they are, and they will continue to do so. The time has come for Ohio to follow the lead of many other states and declare that here, the Constitution matters!

I thank the committe for its time and attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Conkling
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