

Proponent Testimony for H.B. 62

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Committee:

The second amendment of the United States Constitution states the following, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed.” I know you’ve all heard it before and maybe you were rolling your eyes at hearing it again but it needs to be heard. The second amendment is not difficult to understand. It’s unbelievable that this bill is even required. However, Ohioans rights need to be reinforced at the State level. It’s been made very clear by the federal government that our constitution is a nuisance to their power. The rights of the people are nuisances to overcome. No matter how many gun laws they try to institute, you as our representatives ,need to remember that the phrase, “shall not be infringed.” It is simple. It’s spelled out for you. You took an oath to the constitution. If you think that there is anything to negotiate or debate on this issue, you need to resign. The constitution isn’t a negotiation. The constitution and the bill of rights outline the rights of the people and limit the government. You can look at any of the quotes or writings of our founding fathers and you immediately know they were concerned with tyranny and the tools of tyrants. You don’t even need to look further than the bills you’ve passed if you’re wondering if a government restricting the rights of the people to defend themselves could have any tyrannical motives. We need HB 62 for the same reason SB 22 passed and HB90 was introduced. For over a year, we have seen the tyrannical acts of Governor DeWine as he closed business and even restricted our breathing. Cancel culture and fear seemed to have time and again taken away your ability to affirm and to support the Constitution of the United States, and of the State of Ohio. For over a year you have allowed tyranny to rule Ohio for the “greater good.” But let me ask

you this, how long is it before forced vaccination with an experimental vaccine, still in trials, is instituted for the “greater good”? Are we removing the requirement for informed consent regarding medical procedures and the privacy of our medical conditions for the “greater good”? What about forced organ donation being instituted for the “greater good”? We know that the Uighurs in China have been stuffed into concentration camps, degraded, and had their organs harvested. In fact, States have passed resolutions condemning organ harvesting in China. I know you may be thinking that this isn’t communist china but we sure seem to be on the road to it. The constitution and bill of rights prevent atrocities like those happening in China from happening here, especially the second amendment. Once the constitution and bill of rights are impotent and our right to bear arms is removed, tell me, what group will be the Uighurs here? The unvaccinated? The conservatives? I have never lived in so much fear as I do, right now, in these United States of America. It’s not a virus I fear. I fear the government. I fear riotous mobs setting fire to small businesses and intimidating and beating people in public. I fear uncontrolled migrants flooding into our country. I fear criminals being let out of prisons. I fear the scourge of child and sex trafficking which is especially egregious in states like Ohio. I fear rising crime and murder rates. I fear the implementation of covid passports and bills like A416 introduced in New York that states that “UPON DETERMINING BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THE HEALTH OF OTHERS IS OR MAY BE ENDANGERED BY A CASE, CONTACT OR CARRIER, OR SUSPECTED CASE, CONTACT OR CARRIER OF A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE THAT, IN THE OPINION OF THE GOVERNOR, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER, MAY POSE AN IMMINENT AND SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH RESULTING IN SEVERE MORBIDITY OR HIGH MORTALITY, THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DELEGEE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE COMMISSIONER OR THE HEADS OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, MAY ORDER THE

REMOVAL AND/OR DETENTION OF SUCH A PERSON OR OF A GROUP OF SUCH PERSONS BY ISSUING A SINGLE ORDER, IDENTIFYING SUCH PERSONS EITHER BY NAME OR BY A REASONABLY SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF THE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUP BEING DETAINED. SUCH PERSON OR GROUP OF PERSONS SHALL BE DETAINED IN A MEDICAL FACILITY OR OTHER APPROPRIATE FACILITY OR PREMISES DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR OR HIS OR HER DELEGEE AND COMPLYING WITH SUBDIVISION FIVE OF THIS SECTION.” This sounds a little too much like a concentration camps to me and given the inflated numbers and case counts we have since discovered about the coronavirus, it seems a little to convenient to me to give the government these sweeping powers to detain individual or groups.

These are the tools of Hitler. These are the tools of Stalin. These are the tool of Mao. These are the tools of tyrants. And these are currently becoming the tools of our State and Federal Governments. Our right to bear arms is the ultimate safeguard against these tools and and I fear that our ability to defend ourselves will soon be taken away unless you act now to stop all this overreach from happening in our state.

I served in the United States Air Force. I took an oath, one which I haven't forgotten. I've watched for over a year now how discrimination has been accepted and even cheered on by our tyrant governor and I've watched for over a year as you all refused to stand up to him. I'm asking you to stand up now!

As a female and as a veteran, I'd like you to consider the following: the physical fitness standards for males under thirty are 33 push-ups, 42 sit-ups, and completing the 1.5 mile run in 13:36. For males over thirty it is 27 push-ups, 39 sit-ups, and completing the 1.5 mile run in 14:00 minutes. For females 30 and under it is 18 push-ups, 38 sit-ups and completing the 1.5 mile run in 16:22. For females over thirty it is 14 push-ups, 29 sit-ups, and finishing the 1.5 mile run in 16:57. Why does the military have different physical standards for males and

females and different age groups? It's because there are physical differences amongst these demographics. There are, however, no different qualification standards on the m16 range. This is because, with the use of firearms, we are equalized. Those who champion equality or even "equity," should be cheering that fact and standing up for the right to bear arms, especially for women. As a woman, I'm appalled that the right to defend ourselves is being stripped away. Gun rights are women's rights. It is the ultimate right to protect ourselves. As someone with common sense, I'm appalled at the argument that taking gun rights away from law abiding citizens will prevent gun violence. We are already abiding by the law. That's the very definition of law abiding.

It is those who don't abide by the law who do the bad things. These gun restrictions only restrict the rights of the good to protect themselves from the evil. Whether from tyrants or criminals, our right to protect ourselves, in the most equal way, "shall not be infringed."

Please do your job and support and affirm the Constitution and our Bill of Rights.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Wirtz

Mother, Veteran, Concerned Ohioan