

## Proponent Testimony for H.B. 62

Thank you Chair Wigam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly and State and Local Government Committee Members, for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony today for H.B.62, to Designate Ohio a Second Amendment Sanctuary State.

My name is Scott Phelps and I live in Vinton County Ohio. I am a husband, a father, a soldier, a Hunter's Ed instructor, a gun owner, a Constitution Instructor, and a US Citizen born and raised in this Country.

I am here today to testify and to do my part to help save our Great Republic.

Not long ago, those titles I mentioned, were respected by most Americans, but now, that entire world view is demonized by the same people who wish to disarm us. They have designed Red Flag laws that are to be used to disarm their political opponents. They must disarm us not because we have done someone harm, but because a political opponent armed with both knowledge and firearms can **not be forced** into submission.

Those who allow themselves to be disarmed will be mercilessly victimized by leftist gangs in the ensuing, orchestrated chaos. Look at the states and metro areas around us. Just yesterday, Minnesota was under a state of Emergency. This was not because of a massive hurricane, snowstorm or earthquake, but precisely because those same leftists were **planning and stage-managing chaos** in the event a jury doesn't make a decision they would prefer.

Even US House members have joined in the call to "To eliminate 'local' police", that is, police who serve their communities rather than The Party. This is an essential part of any socialist takeover. The one **main goal of the socialist movement** is to disarm you, so that you are entirely dependent on government for protection, and then to 'de-fund' police. What they really intend is to **drive-out good cops**, then **systematically replace them** with Party Loyalists who enforce 'Party Agenda,' not law."

This decision you face when voting on this House Bill 62 means much more than protecting America's hunting sports. This is about making sure Ohioans have the rights and the means to protect themselves from these socialist controlled gangs. This is about ensuring that Ohio does our part in preserving the Republic. **You house members play a pivotal role in that enormous task.**

America was founded on the idea that human beings are born with natural rights, such as the rights to life, liberty and property. A person who holds this view of rights makes no demands on others except that they respect those rights.

The founders of our Nation specifically spelled out the role of government in this new land. The **Government exists to protect the rights of the people** and their property. We have gone wildly astray and have allowed those who hate our Nation to chip away at the Bill of Rights. Not only did the Founders of the US determine that a right to arms, to defend oneself, was fundamental to preserving freedom and liberty, but so did the founders of the great State of Ohio. They enshrined that basic right to self protection in the Ohio Constitution.

Our constitution is a **contract between the people** of this land and the **elected officials**. In that contract, **the government is permitted** certain privileges to help maintain peace and order. The first 10 amendments of our Constitution restrict the Federal Government from infringing on basic rights of the people.

American law-enforcement officers have been designated “enemies” by leftists. Likewise, innocent American gun-owners, and our entire American firearms industry, are now designated “enemies” by socialists who rampage through our communities.

Meanwhile, leftist governors are emptying prisons!

This **ENTIRELY orchestrated oblivion** is, of course, delighting leftists, progressives, Communists, and socialists. For them gun control is not really about the guns, but rather **control of the people who once had them**.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that we are quickly losing our Republic...unless we the people do something.

So that's why all of us are here. To send a message, one that is **loud and clear**:

**If this Ohio legislative body does not commit to blocking any Federal assault on our right to bear arms, then we will stop them.**

We will go, one by one, to each of our 88 counties and implement 2nd Amendment Sanctuaries in all of those that understand liberty. Some County leaders will not understand the challenge that faces them, and sadly, Ohio will be left with "free counties" and "controlled counties". To date, 33 of those Ohio counties have already passed local ordinances or resolutions as 2A Sanctuary Counties.

As a young man in my 20s, I gave up my youth to serve my country. As a US Army Sergeant, I was stationed in Europe **defending free people from the communist agenda**, and preventing it from spreading here to our shores. They too had “free land” and “controlled land” Because they were first disarmed,

**East Germany became a proving ground for socialist government and policies.**

That experiment FAILED – **Spectacularly.**

As a US Army Soldier and a non-commissioned officer, I once swore an oath to “Support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies both foreign and domestic”. I knew I was pledging my life to defending that freedom as a young man, and I understand even more, what it means at this moment in time. **That oath my friends has no expiration date!** I fought those communist ideas in my 20s, and I refuse to take orders from those same socialists now, here on our land.

I urge you to vote for HB62, to protect our right to bear arms, and to use them to defend ourselves against threats both foreign and domestic.

I'll leave you with a pertinent quote from Alisa Rosenbaum who escaped Stalin's Russian Communist Utopia as she warned America like a canary in the coal mine of what comes next:

*“We are fast-approaching the stage of ‘The Ultimate Inversion:’*

*Where government is free to do anything it pleases, while citizens may act only by permission; which is the stage of the darkest periods of human history, the stage of ‘Rule by Brute Force.’”*

That American Patriot and Author: is better known as Ayn Rand

For the security and preservation of our Great Republic, I ask that you support H.B. 62 designate Ohio a Second Amendment Sanctuary State!

Thank you for your time. I'll be glad to answer any questions you have for me.

Scott Phelps  
66211 Bethel Road  
New Plymouth, Ohio 45654  
740-596-1984  
scott.phelps@onguarddefense.com