

Testimony on House Bill 62
House State and Local Government Committee
June 9, 2021

Submitted by:
Ann Shroyer

Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to House Bill 62. My name is Ann Shroyer and I am a resident of Delaware County and the mother of a public elementary school student. I moved here last fall from Central Pennsylvania, but was born and raised in Northwest Ohio.

I am opposed to HB62 because it is unconstitutional – as has been decided by an attempt by Kansas to pass a similar law. Federal law trumps state law. This bill is a waste of lawmaker resources for debate and work. This bill, if passed, will be a complete waste of taxpayer money in the obvious lawsuits that will be filed against the state and the costs to defend an indefensible, unconstitutional bill. Our coffers are not full thanks to the pandemic, we do not need to waste money on such dangerous frivolity.

This bill also encourages criminal activity in the pursuit of obtaining more firearms by Ohioans. Ohio's current gun suicide rate has increased at a higher rate than the rest of the country – encouraging more illegal gun ownership will do nothing to save the lives of 1500 Ohioans who die by gunfire each year. I live in Westerville, where 2 police officers were shot and killed by a man who should not have been able to own a firearm. When I lived in PA, in 2017 a state trooper and a local law enforcement officer were both shot and killed by domestic abusers who should not have been able to own a firearm. I have 2 brother-in-laws who serve as full time first responders and deserve to have federal gun laws followed and enforced to protect them as they arrive on the scenes of our citizens' need.

HB 62 serves no other purpose other than to curry favor with the gun lobby donor class and be proponents for anyone to own a gun, including those that would wish to make my 3 nieces father-less.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Shroyer