

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

Submitted by:
Joan Calem

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.

I am an educator and parent living in Columbus. I am very concerned about the language of HB 62, which essentially is allowing Ohio citizens to ignore Federal gun laws. Is this a subtle attempt by Ohio legislators to invite an insurrection against the Federal government? As an American citizen and as a taxpayer I have no interest in supporting a secession of Ohio from the United States, nor do I support an armed insurrection by Ohio gun users against Federal law.

As an Ohio citizen I am eager to see my legislators find ways to make Ohio a safer place to live, and to allow gun owners to continue to own their guns in such a way that everyone is kept safe from gun violence.

This bill goes the opposite direction: it encourages both legal and illegal gun owners to use their guns wherever they wish in whatever way they wish with no adherence to federal gun laws. This bill further endangers police officers by tying their hands when someone has a gun, and not being able to enforce federal gun laws. It seems quite backwards for an Ohio legislature that claims to be pro-police to be attempting to enact a law that the police do not support and that will make their job much harder and even more dangerous.

I ask you to vote against this law. There is nothing in this law that will serve to help Ohio citizens who are concerned to live safe and productive lives.

Sincerely,

Joan Calem