

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

Thank you for taking my written testimony in opposition to HB 62. I feel it would undermine the rule of law in Ohio and jeopardize public safety. I feel it will encourage extremists to defy gun laws. Background checks on all gun sales is not an infringement on an individual's rights. We have to get licensed to drive a car, fly an airplane, go fishing or hunting and I don't see this proposed federal legislation to require background checks on all gun sales as anything more than these other requirements to maintain a safe and orderly environment.

This law would tie the hands of the local officials and undermine the rule of law. This bill would expose Ohio law enforcement officers to costly lawsuits, court costs, and event to the loss of employment just for doing their jobs. It would prevent local authorities from accessing Federal Resources, preventing participating in federal task forces, referring cases to federal law enforcement, , creating confusion and or asking for federal assistance in tracing the origin of crime guns could be against this law.

It seems it would do the exact opposite as intended and encourage criminal activity by sending the message that federal gun laws will not be enforced.

It is time we stop acquiescing to the extremists among us and be reasonable. America has been the shining light of democracy for centuries because state and federal legislative bodies respected one another and worked together. I see that that is what is needed now. I am no 'leftist' , just a citizen of this great state of Ohio and concerned that extreme policies will threaten our democracy.

Please reject HB 62 as it is one of those extremist policies that threaten this balance between state and federal governments that we the people elect!