

Testimony on House Bill 62
House State and Local Government Committee
June 9, 2021
Submitted by Mimi Karon

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 a mother of two and a very concerned citizen. I was extremely disappointed to see this bill on the House and Local Government's agenda since it would cause so much damage to our state in a myriad of ways. It is truly heartbreaking to me that our Ohio lawmakers are attempting to destroy a piece of what makes our country so incredible – our UNITED states and its constitution.

When state legislators begin cherry picking which Federal laws Ohio should/should not be enforced, life is going to become incredibly confusing and dangerous for its citizens. HB 62, a bill that seeks to override federal laws is not safe nor legal. But it is irresponsible and reckless. State's rights over federal have been deemed unconstitutional since our country was first founded. Under the U.S. Constitution's Supremacy Clause, federal laws are "the supreme law of the land" and any state law that conflicts with federal law is null and void.¹ I am very concerned that this type of bill has been even drafted and then sponsored by my state's lawmakers. It is just plain dangerous and anger-invoking. Our legislature needs to be spending time on laws that will help move our state forward by focusing on bills that are going to help citizen live safer, higher quality lives. This legislation shows no care for Ohioans and is reflective of a much less socially aware era like that of Jim Crowe or pre-civil war.

I ask that you please do not bring this bill to a vote and if so, for the future of Ohio and the United States, that you please vote against HB62. Thank you for allowing me to share my testimony today.

¹ See U.S. Constitution, Article VI, clause 2