

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: Sept. 22, 2021

Name: Jan Nespor

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: _____

Address: 74 E. Jeffrey Pl

City: Columbus State: OH Zip: 43214

Best Contact Telephone: 6143275233 Email: jnespor@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business _____ before _____ the _____ committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): SB185

Specific Issue: emergency powers when suppressing a riot; firearms rights

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? N/A

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise

Oct 4, 2021

Veterans and Public Safety Committee
Opponent Testimony
Senate Bill 185
Written Testimony Only

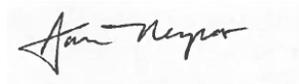
Jan Nespor

October 4, 2021

Dear Chairman Hoagland, LaRe, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Thomas, Leland, and members of the Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee

I write in opposition to SB185. Although it is framed as legislation protecting gun rights, SB185 in fact will undermine the right to act in public by creating situations in which peaceful protestors can be threatened and intimidated by armed antagonists. This legislation will make us unsafe, whereas current laws (including prohibitions on the sale of guns and ammo during a "crisis") are designed to keep us safe. As has been pointed out by others, under the proposed legislation any group holding any kind of peaceful protest or march could be surrounded or intimidated by people with guns, explosives, or other deadly weapons. If the police or other governmental officials were to attempt to take those weapons for the sake of safety, those officials could be legally sued for damages and other forms of relief. If protestors or provocateurs pretending to be protestors (a well-documented phenomenon, see, e.g., <https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/ct-nw-minneapolis-police-station-boogaloo-boy-20201023-as3pvouig5bctfrnoo4pqchecq-story.html>) engaged in anything that could be portrayed as violence or over-reaction against those with the weapons and those with weapons choose to use them, they would almost certainly claim a "stand your ground defense." This bill feeds into other legislation suppressing popular protest and enabling the operation of paramilitary groups who threaten our democracy. The bill should not pass.

Sincerely,



Professor Jan Nesor

e) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.