

Chairman Lang, Vice Chair Plummer, and members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Alaina Swope. I am a Zanesville-based organizer, educator, barista, and published researcher and current candidate for State Representative in OH-97. I am strongly opposed to HB 381.

Two weekends ago, I was getting pepper sprayed and physically harmed for peacefully protesting police brutality, and I am disappointed to have to testify against a Kill at Will law today. Ohioans already have a right to self-defense and the data is clear that "Stand your Ground" laws such as HB 381 are deadly and allow for racial biases to become an excuse to kill.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this deadly and unnecessary bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Alaina Swope