

To Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown, Committee Members:
Thank you for reading my testimony on HB325: A bill regarding a political subdivision's emergency powers and preservation of rights regarding firearms during an emergency.

My name is Laurie Albright. I reside in University Hts Ohio. I am a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland, and a number of social justice organizations.

I am writing in opposition to HB 325. I believe it is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It purports to "keep the community safe" by forbidding police officers from removing weapons from persons present at a protest. In effect, it would do the exact opposite. Police, who are charged "to serve and protect" would be defenseless to interrupt a dangerous situation during a peaceful protest.

I am shocked that in 2022, there is a proposal to return to "the wild west" where it is impossible to tell "the good guy with a gun", from a "bad guy with a gun", hamstringing police officers, so that the chips will fall where they may.

This is not the environment people want to raise their children in, nor participate in as caring and committed citizens. This bizarre, malicious and deceptive reasoning needs to be seen for what it is, and stopped.

I urge you to stop HB 325 in its tracks.