House State Ans Local Government Committee Opposition Testimony on SB 62 6/7/2021 Nancy Pierson

Chairman Wiggam and Committee Members,

I am a long time Ohio resident, mother of a son who graduated from Jackson Local Schools, active in my church and proud grandmother of a child with special needs who lives in Columbus, OH.

I do not think that HB 62 should pass. I support the police and other law enforcement who risk their lives to protect us. This bill would actually punish Police for enforcing federal gun laws in Ohio. As citizens, we have a right to expect that our Police will stop criminals and other prohibited persons from carrying guns in our communities. But this law would have those police officers fired or make them the victims of law suits!

This bill would establish a culture of total disregard for the law in Ohio. Don't like a law? OK, you don't have to obey it in Ohio! I will not feel safe in my community if this law passes. Research shows that states with easier access to guns have higher gun death rates. Ohio's gun death rate is already going up twice as fast as the national average.

I have to question whether you're even serious about this bill. If you pass this, you will destroy Ohio as a place to live, work and own a home.

Thank you for your attention, Nancy Pierson