HB51 Opposition testimony

Committee Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey and Committee Members:

My name is Donna Malone, I am a retired nurse practitioner and a concerned citizen. I wish to voice my strong opposition to HB51.

First, it will make Ohio a more dangerous state. We already have some of the weakest gun laws in the country and it is about time legislators start thinking of protections for the citizens of Ohio and not just the rights of extreme gun owners!

Second, it's a slippery slope to start passing bills that override the U.S. Constitution. Revised HB51 will fuel anti-government sentiment and encourage violence.

Third, states that have passed it are costing taxpayers' money while their lawmakers defend this legislation. On March 7 of this year a federal judge ruled Missouri's identical bill unconstitutional and preempted by the federal government under the US Constitution's supremacy clause. U.S. District Judge Brain Wimes, in his ruling stated "At best, this statute causes confusion among state law enforcement officials who are deputized for federal task operations, and at worst, is unconstitutional on its face."

This bill is madness. I ask that you please protect Ohians and the United States Constitution by opposing this terrible piece of legislation.

Remember your responsibility to all Ohioans!

Thank you, Donna Malone Toledo, Ohio