

Chair Ghanbari, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Homeland Security Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Shannon Hanf. I am an Ohioan, mother, and social worker. I am here today to strongly oppose House Bill 84 and urge you to vote no.

As the mother of an 18-year-old son, I can assure you that while these young men are technically adults, they are still children in many ways. Their brains are not yet fully developed. They are still often incapable of making split-second decisions while being fully aware of the potential consequences. Allowing anyone younger than 21 to become a peace officer would mean arming people who are still essentially impulsive children and giving them the power of life and death over other human beings. It's dangerous and will undoubtedly result in harm to Ohioans.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful and dangerous bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.