

April 17, 2023

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Emily Haynes, and I am a resident of Mason, Ohio. I strongly oppose Senate Bill 53 and urge you to vote no.

A young person who has just turned 18 is not prepared for the responsibility of enforcing the law in Ohio. Police officers are entrusted with responding to emergency situations that require maturity and experience to handle that a person who has just graduated high school does not have. An 18 year old is simply not prepared for that duty. They are not even allowed to legally drink alcohol.

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