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**Committees:**  
Primary & Secondary  
Education, Ranking  
Public Utilities  
Ways & Means

**Special Appointments:**  
Educators Standard Board

**Phillip M. Robinson Jr.**  
**State Representative**  
**Ohio House District 6**

December 23, 2020

Governor Mike DeWine  
Vern Riffe Center  
77 S High St, 30th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine:

I write to respectfully ask you to use your executive powers to veto three bills recently passed bills in the 133<sup>rd</sup> Ohio General Assembly: Senate Bills (SB) 33, 175, and 260.

SB 33 is an attack on 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights to protest due to the vague, far reaching, and broad language of the bill.

- Both individual Ohioans and advocacy groups could be unfairly punished and bankrupted in draconian fines, legal fees, and felony jail time for something as mundane as posting flyers on telephone poles.
- This attempts to solve a problem that does not exist in Ohio.
- The underlining goal of this bill is to aid fossil fuel and energy companies in suppressing concerns and protest against air, land, and water pollution, and the potential health issues caused by these companies.

SB 175 was amended to eliminate any “duty to retreat” before using force in self-defense, creating an infamous and dangerous “stand your ground” provision, which will lead to a “kill at will” and “shoot first” law if enacted. This goes too far.

- By permitting the use of deadly force by individuals who believe their lives are endangered in any space, you are creating a loophole in law for people to escape prosecution for manslaughter and murder.
- If passed, it would take away judge’s or jury’s power to evaluate self-defense cases.
- This measure will not increase public safety.
- The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, and other members of law enforcement and prosecution oppose this act.

**6<sup>th</sup> House District:** Southeast Cuyahoga County  
Bentleyville – Brecksville – Broadview Heights – Chagrin Falls - Chagrin Falls Township – Gates Mills –  
Glenwillow – Highland Heights – Hunting Valley – Independence – Lyndhurst – Mayfield Village – Moreland Hills  
– Oakwood Village – Seven Hills – Solon – Valley View – Walton Hills

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- Similar laws in other states have disproportionately hurt people of color by encouraging violence, with research showing that a White shooters who kill Black victims are 350% more likely to be found justified than Black shooters who kill White victims.

I ask you to keep your promise to not sign into law any such measures until your gun safety reform package in SB 221 is passed by the legislature.

SB 260 is an assault on women's medical rights and health choices by prohibiting abortion medication during telehealth.

- By punishing doctors with charges of a fourth-degree and eventually third-degree felony for supporting their patients' choices and rights can only lead to negative health outcomes for women.
- Without addressing infant and maternal mortality rates in Ohio, especially among the poor and/or diverse communities of colors, this act could endanger many lives.

Signing these three acts into law would be a disservice to Ohioans, especially with some passed without proper debate in committee and on the House floor. And most importantly, all will have consequences that will hurt the lives of Ohioans if enacted.

I thank you for your consideration and urge quick action to not allow these controversial and problematic acts to become law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phillip M. Robinson Jr.".

State Representative, Ohio House District 6  
Ranking Member, House Primary and Secondary Education Committee

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