



July 5, 2017

The Honorable Kristina Roegner  
Chair, Federalism and Interstate Relations  
Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High St., 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

**RE: Substitute House Bill 233 – OMA Written Testimony**

Dear Chair Roegner:

The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) appreciates the opportunity to share its comment regarding House Bill 233.

Substitute House Bill 233 provides a carve-out for a concealed handgun licensee or a qualified military member who ignores posted signs prohibiting persons from carrying firearms or concealed firearms on or onto the land or those premises. This bill debilitates a property owner's ability to keep dangerous firearms off of his or her property, even if a sign prohibiting the carrying of a firearm or concealed firearm is posted in a conspicuous area. Although such offending person may be ordered to be removed from the property owner's land, this bill insures that such trespassing person will not face a penalty that will adequately deter such person from returning to the property owner's land knowingly carrying a concealed firearm.

The OMA and its members are highly concerned about this law. Not only does it open the door to potential harm described above, current law sufficiently protects licensees in these situations. In order to violate current law a licensee has to "knowingly" violate a prohibition. The law already protects those who unknowingly or mistakenly bring a weapon onto a prohibited property.

Businesses own the decision about whether or not an individual can bring a concealed weapon onto their private properties. The law already provides clear guidance about who breaks the law in these situations. House Bill 233 is unnecessary and is a solution to a nonexistent problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 233.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. Brundrett".

Robert Brundrett  
Director, Public Policy Services