

## Penny-Jo Thress' Testimony

May 1, 2019

Chairman Becker, Vice Chairman Stoltzfus, Ranking Member Miller and members of the House Federalism Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify on this wonderful legislation, House Bill 178.

I just want to take this opportunity to say that I think that everyone should have constitutional carry. There are so many people in our great state as well as the rest of the nation that never consider anything more or worse than to protect themselves, their families, and fellow Ohioans with firearms.

And that is exactly why lawmakers and elected officials should not be proposing to ever take firearms from law-abiding citizens, because law-abiding citizens are not the ones breaking the laws or being the criminals who are misusing the firearms. And its our Constitutional Right "The Right to Bare Arms"!

With so many law-abiding citizens that are gun owners there is no reason why we should have such the criminal rate that we do. I think I speak for myself as well as the rest of the gun owners across this nation, that I can remember a time when I never felt safer then I did to walk on to my school property and see shotguns hanging in every window of all of the trucks of the young men that I went to school with.

We have an issue in this country.. the vile people that use guns to conduct criminal activity with those firearms and an attack on firearm owners, to make firearms seem to be more than inanimate objects that can squeeze the trigger for themselves is only to demonize the true good patriots of this nation who love the 2 Amendment!! . We all know guns can't hurt you themselves they need a person to do that, for that trigger to be squeezed all on its own.?.this is ridiculous and not the case.

There was a man once that said " I am the majority!" well I happen to work with a man that says "thanking you for everything that you do, although today and each and every day none of us are doing.. enough". And that is the truth that includes our Sheriffs, our Judges, our officers of the Court, local, state and federal elected officials everywhere!

Constitutional Carry is a direct freedom that was taken from the people and put directly in the hands of criminals! When they don't follow the law anyway! To support it now would put more freedom back to the people where it belongs! When criminals carry..? Do they report it, do they broadcast it or get a license to do so..? No! So why should those of us; that are in the direct contact with a possible criminal at any time, have to do so either?!

Guns Save Lives! Criminals Take Them! Not Us Law-Abiding Citizens many of you may have opted to punish for the acts of those who don't care if they have consequences or not! We;.. good true citizens, value these freedoms!

I happen to be very proud as well as confident in my fellow gun owners and their ability to govern themselves with that responsibility!

Constitutional Carry isn't and should not be up for request, ITS A RIGHT! It should be a given and All Americans far and wide, ESPECIALLY OHIOANS NOW, want it back!

Thank you,

Penny-Jo Thress