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Ohio Senate

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**Sponsor Testimony on Senate Bill 242
Senate Judiciary Committee
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Chairman Bacon, Vice Chair Dolan, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 242. This legislation will eliminate an outdated Ohio law which bans the manufacturing of various types of spring loaded knives and various other tools and instruments. Ohio would join several other states including, Texas, New Hampshire, Missouri, and others that have repealed these antiquated laws.

In Ohio, it is currently legal for an individual to own a spring loaded knife, but not to manufacture one. This means potential consumers currently have to either shop online or travel to another state. This archaic law is preventing Ohio businesses from reaching their full potential.

My constituent, Hinderer Knives, is a world class manufacturer of various types of bladed tools and instruments. Under current Ohio law, Mr. Hinderer cannot produce various spring loaded knives causing him to turn down multi-million dollar contracts. If Ohio were to change this law we would be allowing Mr. Hinderer, as well as other companies, to expand their business and hire more individuals in the community to meet the demand.

This legislation is supported by the national organization Knife Rights as well as the American Knife and Tool Institute. Together, they understand the current law is in no way helpful to Ohio but instead harmful to the hardworking small business owners who are looking to expand manufacturing and employ Ohioans.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this afternoon. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.