

## Testimony on House Bill 227

House Government and Oversight Committee

June 16, 2021

Submitted by:

Meghann Naveau

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in opposition to House Bill 227. My name is Meghann Naveau, and I am a business owner, parent, and lifelong Ohioan, growing up in a small, rural town and now residing in Bellbrook.

I support the right of Ohioans to own guns and bear arms. I am not against guns. But, I do have concern that permitless carry, as outlined in HB 227, will put our children, families, and communities at risk by allowing people to carry hidden, loaded handguns in public without a permit or safety training. I am not alone in this concern, as 88% (an overwhelming majority!) of Americans think a person should get a permit before carrying a concealed handgun in public.<sup>1</sup>

I value the role of the legislature to protect the rights of our citizens, and we cannot limit those protections to only the loudest, most wealthy, or most well-armed among us. You took an oath to serve all the citizens of Ohio, and Ohio voters overwhelmingly support the current law regarding concealed carry. According to a March 2016 survey, 90 percent of Ohio voters support requiring a permit to carry a concealed handgun in public.<sup>2</sup>

Please help to protect all Ohioans. Opposed HB 227.

Sincerely,

Meghann Naveau

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<sup>1</sup> Ingham K. "New Survey Finds Strong Opposition to Concealed Carry without a Permit". Strategies 360. (2015). <https://every.tw/2tSNDyq>.

<sup>2</sup> Survey USA Survey, March 2016.