

Government Oversight Committee

Opposition Testimony on HB 227-Permitless Carry

Submitted by: Sheri Cody

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White , Ranking member Sweeney and members of the committee,

Thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 227.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist in Stark County, I am urging you to vote no on HB 227.

As a professional, I have been involved with hundreds of emergency situations. I can tell you that years of training and retraining are required to remain calm and handle extremely stressful situations. Also

having mentors who have dealt with emergencies is an important component to handling emergencies.

The lack of training hours for Ohioans to carry guns, as outlined in this bill, is a recipe for disaster. It will

not make us safer; it will certainly make our state more dangerous. Research show that states that do

not require permits for concealed carry have a 12 to 13% higher rate of gun deaths than states that do

require permits. This bill would eliminate background checks and allow violent felons and drug dealers

to carry guns. I am not sure why there is continual push to move these bad ideas forward.

As a CRNA I have seen the devastation of gunshot wounds. According to a study of 23,000 John's

Hopkins Trauma Patients, gun injuries require 10 X the units of blood to treat compared to other types

of trauma, and patients who have been shot are 14X more likely to die than other trauma patients.

lowering the age of concealed carry to 18 is dangerous. Neurological imaging makes it clear that the

prefrontal cortex (the seat of reasoning and judgement) is not mature until the age of 20+.

Young people are far more likely to respond to a stressful situation by reaching for their gun if they are carrying

one. This endangers them and all those around them.

I urge you to vote no on HB 227.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Cody, RN, BSN, CRNA