

Opponent Testimony on House Bill 227
Government Oversight Committee

Submitted by: Kate Dieble

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify.

I live in North Canton which is a small town in Stark County. I oppose HB 227. Once again, the Ohio Legislature is spending its time and my tax dollars trying to pass a gun bill that the vast majority of Ohio voters oppose. A Quinnipiac University poll released July 26, 2019 found that 90 percent of Ohio voters (including 87 percent of gun owners!) support background checks. If you eliminate Ohio's permit system, you eliminate background checks and gun safety training. States that don't have permits and background checks have a 15% higher gun homicide rate, according to a Boston University study. Every year, more than 1,400 Ohioans are killed with guns and thousands more are shot and injured. We need to do the things that make Ohio safer but this bill would just add to the tragedy of gun deaths. I'm asking you to listen to the voters of this state and vote no on HB 227.

Kate Dieble