

House Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony HB 227

Submitted by:
Mary Anne Crampton

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and committee members:

As an Ohio resident, engaged community member and mother of two young men, I am writing in opposition to HB227 which would expand the ability to carry concealed handguns to certain criminals and people charged with crimes who cannot currently obtain such a license. As our representatives in the Statehouse, you are charged with protecting Ohio citizens. We need laws that encourage responsible gun ownership. This proposed law will only make Ohio, a state where death by gun is increasing month after month, more dangerous. As is the case with virtually every other product regulated for consumer use, legislation regarding concealed carry and who may obtain a license should be about safety. No other readily available product is as lethal as a firearm. Eighty-eight percent of Americans think a permit should be required before carrying a concealed gun in public. HB227 would let people who have never handled a gun carry one concealed and loaded in public. HB227 negatively impacts the safety of citizens and law enforcement. We need laws that will keep Ohioans safe. Changing the restrictions on who can obtain a CCW and then allowing anyone to carry is not the way. I ask you to stop HB227 from going any further in our legislative process. Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony with you.