

House Government Oversight Committee  
Opposition Testimony HB 227  
Submitted by: Jennifer Bauchus

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and  
Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony.

I am a small business owner, wife, mother and voter in Jackson Township, Stark  
County, Ohio. I strongly oppose HB 227 (Permitless Carry) for several reasons.

First, as a business owner, I feel Permitless Carry would be bad for my small  
business. It means I have to worry more about some person who is prohibited  
from having a gun entering my business and endangering me and my customers. I  
can't afford paid security for my sole proprietorship. States that don't have  
permits and background checks have a 15% higher gun homicide rate, according  
to a Boston University study. If someone gets shot, or assets get damaged, in my  
place of business, who will pay? Likely ME, in one way or another!

Second, a Quinnipiac University poll published in 2019 found that 90 percent of  
Ohio voters (including 87 percent of gun owners!) support background checks.  
Why are you listening to the gun lobby and ignoring the majority of Ohioans?

Every year, more than 1,400 Ohioans are killed with guns and about 4 times that  
number are shot and injured. You need to do the things that make Ohioans safer  
and *help* small business owners, not make it tougher for us! Stop HB 227.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Bachus

