

Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony- SB 215
Submitted by: Sheri Cody

Dear Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important issue.

As a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist in Stark County, I am urging you to vote no on SB 215. 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. This bill would not only make it easier for domestic abusers, drug dealers, people with court adjudicated mental illness and convicted felons to concealed carry guns, it also lets them do so without any training! Research shows that even thoroughly trained police officers shoot far less accurately when in a stressful situation. When arguments escalate into violence, innocent bystanders are often unintended victims. Research by Boston University found that states with the loosest gun laws have the highest gun homicide rates.

As a CRNA I have seen the devastation of gunshot wounds. The chance of any innocent person being shot is enough to make me oppose this bill. 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.

I support law and order. SB 215 is anti-police. It would change the current "duty to notify" so that you don't have to tell a police officer that you are carrying a concealed weapon unless the officer first asks you. Why would you vote to put our police officers in more danger?

A poll by USA Survey in 2016 found that 88% of Ohioans agree that our state should keep our background check system. I urge you to vote no on SB 215

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Cody, RN, BSN, CRNA