

Opposition Testimony S.B. 215
Government Oversight Committee
Chair Rep. Shane Wilkin
Vice Chair Rep. Andrea White

Submitted by Sieglinde Martin, February 23, 2022

Chairman Shane Wilkin, Vice Chair Andrea White, Ranking Member Richard D. Brown and members of the Veterans and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony against S. B. 215.

My name is Sieglinde Martin. I am testifying as a constituent, a mother, a grandmother, a retired pediatric physical therapist and resident of central Ohio for over 50 years.

S.B. 215 will allow anyone over 21 years of age to carry a hidden loaded gun in public. No license, training, background check or oversight required. Does this law make sense to you?

S.B. 215 would even allow persons to carry a handgun without a permit, which **are charged with pending felonies and violence related crimes and persons convicted of some assaults, drug offences, resisting arrests and even a misdemeanor assault on a police officer.** Does this law make sense to you?

S.B. 215 will eliminate the requirement to notify the law enforcement officer when carrying a concealed weapon, for example during a traffic stop. Doesn't this endanger the officer?

S.B. 215 will eliminate the present requirement of eight hours of training to carry a concealed weapon. Isn't this reckless?

Valid research and common sense state that S.B. 215 will endanger Ohioans. The choice is: Pro Gun for Some or Pro Safety for All. Therefore, I am glad that this bill is being deliberated by your distinguished Committee concerned about Public Safety. I sincerely believe that you will do the right thing and dismiss this ill-intended legislation.

S.B. 215 is not about civil rights and gun rights. Ohioans already have the right to openly carry or concealed carry a gun. S.B. 215 diminishes the responsibility and safety that are essential to these rights. Who will benefit from the proposed Bill?

Isn't S.B. 215 an attempted overreach by some gun lobbyists and their followers?
Don't let them get away with it!

The issues of S.B. 215 is not about being Republican, Democrat or Independent. It is about Public Safety!

Let S.B. 215 die in committee.

Thank you.