

Ohio House Government Oversight Committee

Opposition Testimony on SB 215

By Barb McCarren

Dear Chairman Wilkin, Ranking Member Brown and Committee Members,

I am a long-time resident of Stark County, OH, a former teacher, and mother of two young men. I am completely against SB 215. There is no need for this bill because gun owners' 2nd amendment rights are already well protected at Ohio state and federal levels. The Supreme Court has ruled that permits and background checks do not violate the 2nd amendment. But gun owners do not have the right to endanger the rest of us in public places. States that do not have permits and background checks have 15% more gun deaths than states that have such laws. It's pretty clear which side of the ledger Ohio should be on. Instead of getting rid of our permits and background checks, we should expand them to include on-line sales.

In addition, this bill is anti-police. It makes it harder for police to do their job. Under current law, citizen have a "duty to notify" police right away if they are stopped for a traffic violation and they are carrying a concealed. Under the proposed law, the officer will have to specifically ask them if they are carrying first. This puts the burden on Police. Also, Police can't even stop someone to investigate a suspicious looking weapon. Even if they see a truckload of AK-47, they can't investigate it unless the person breaks some other law. Multiple Police organizations have testified against removal of "duty to notify" many times.

Please understand, that even if you amend this bill to exclude the sections that weaken the Duty To Notify, SB 215 IS STILL A

DANGEROUS BILL AND IT SHOULD NOT PASS! Please reject SB 215.

Common sense says that Ohioans who want to carry a loaded gun where it cannot be seen should have a background check and at least *SOME* training.

A concerned citizen,
Barbara McCarren