

**Government Oversight Committee**  
**Opposition Testimony: SB 215-Permitless Carry**  
Submitted by: Ruth Lapp

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown and  
Committee Members,  
Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony today.

My name is Ruth Raynor Lapp and I am writing as a concerned citizen.  
I OPPOSE SB 215. As an Ohio citizen for more than 55 years, I am  
asking you to vote no on this bill. Stop this reckless bill that is  
supported by a WELL FUNDED but vocal MINORITY.

Ohioans want measures that insure those who possess guns are  
knowledgeable about their firearm and that the weapon is not in the  
hands of a person with a criminal background.

We have had a high increase in gun violence. Between 2011 -2020 gun  
violence increased 44% vs. nationwide it was 33%.

Gun deaths cost money. In Ohio the sum was \$11 billion dollars with  
state tax payers funding \$486 million.

Guns are the leading cause of death in children and teens. About 144  
die from guns each year and one third of these are suicides.

States with stronger gun safety laws like background checks and  
permits have lower incidents of gun violence. Ohio ranks low on gun  
safety and high on gun violence. Incidence of gun violence is 20 per  
100,000 people in Ohio while in states with more gun safety laws the  
incidence is 7.4 per 100,000.

This law is opposed by many law enforcement agencies as it makes  
their dangerous job even more dangerous. It makes our civil society  
more dangerous as statistics bear out in states that have passed  
similar laws.

Please vote no On SB 215.

Ruth Lapp