

As first Vice President and Chair of both the Political Action and Criminal Justice Committee for the Cincinnati NAACP we are adamantly against the proposal SB 215, because it removes the required training and certification to own a gun.

It becomes a public health issue when more guns are available by owners who are not trained and informed of the current gun laws. On top of being in a STAND YOUR GROUND STATE, where there is no duty to retreat, we believe this will lead to more incidents of

hostile gun owners who want to take the law into their own hands, which also presents a danger to innocent bystanders being injured or killed, more instances of self-inflicted gun shots, and increased acts of gun-related suicides.

It is a slap in the face to victims of gun violence who have demanded responsible gun laws that would address restrictions on weapons of war (high powered rifles) to not be an available option amongst a civilian population. We have yet to hear this legislative body present any legislative solution that prevent those suffering from mental illness from obtaining a fire arm. Crickets on laws requiring secure gun storage, that would help reduce accidental shooting and suicide among youth and "the nearly 380,000 guns that are stolen from private gun owners every year." Source: Langton L. Firearms stolen during household burglaries and other property crimes, 2005–2010. US Department of Justice.

The right to bear arms is a constitutional right but it does not eliminate the duty to be responsible with a deadly weapon. There is a reason why we don't just give the keys to the car to a teenager the moment they turn 16 without training and certification, because we understand that a car can become a deadly weapon and in UNTRAINED hands that do not understand traffic laws we not only place our child endanger but also others. Common sense must apply when developing laws around deadly weapons.

This law also removes the duty by the citizen to inform the officer that they are in possession of a concealed firearm. If this bill passes we believe more police will have a more volatile approach toward citizens because they will assume that the majority of citizens will possess a gun and fear their intent by possessing a firearm, legal or not (A gun is automatically considered a threat to police ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU ARE BLACK). Again this creates more anxiety for officers and citizens who often becomes the casualty in a police-involved shooting over something as trivial as mistaken a cellphone for a gun. This laws place citizens in direct danger as well as police.

The Claim that this law is upholding one's constitutional right to bear arms is a farce. This law will not apply to every natural born citizen covered by the Constitution, only those who the state considers "Qualified Law-Abiding Adults" So for all who has already fallen prey to illegal gun possession in efforts to protect themselves and their property, will not qualify, there is no

retroactive component that removes the criminality for everyone who has been charged with gun possession in the past to have that charge expunged. Which is the biggest farce to the argument of owning a gun as God given right by the Constitution. If it is not extended to every legal citizens of this country protected under the Constitution than you are only creating another relax gun law that is restrictive as it should be, but is dishonest in its efforts to liberate gun owners under the constitutuon

Black people who are law-abiding and obtain a gun by way of SB 215 may appreciate the accessibility but cannot assume the law will treat their gun ownership the same as white gun owners. The murder of John Crawford III and Tamir Rice who both possessed a legal pellet gun in an OPEN CARRY State was still murdered by police in less than a second, and both were blamed for their own deaths for merely possessing a legal gun. We are tired of gun lobbist influencing gun laws in our state and even more tired of elected officials who disregard public health and safety for their own political interests.