

Opposition testimony on Senate Bill 215
Ohio Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee

Alexandra Hubbard

Dear Chairman Hoagland and Committee Members;

I'm a school psychologist working in K-12 public schools in NE Ohio and I vote regularly. I am writing to strongly oppose SB 215. I urge you to reject this bill in order to ensure the safety of your constituents.

Eighty-eight % of Americans think that people should have to have a permit to carry concealed weapons in public...with good reason. This bill would allow people to concealed carry weapons without background checks or training. As a school psychologist, I am most concerned about the safety and well-being of Ohio's children. Gun violence is now the 2nd leading cause of death for children overall and the 1st leading of cause of death among black children (CDC data). New research, recently discussed in the Wall Street Journal, found that children who are exposed to violence during childhood are less able to learn new material as they grow up, compared to other children. Gun violence kills twice as many children as cancer.

A study by Boston University found that states that have permits and background checks have 15% fewer gun deaths than states without these laws. There is absolutely no moral reason to get rid of Ohio's gun permits for concealed carry!

Listen to Ohio's voters and protect our children! Stop SB 215.

Thank you for your attention,
Alexandra Hubbard

1. Ingham, K. New survey finds strong opposition to concealed carry without a permit. Strategies 360. 2015