

Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee

Opponent Testimony SB 215

From Penny Hubbard

To Chairman Hoagland and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to testify. I live in Clinton, Ohio with my husband. We have raised all three of our daughters in this rural community and all three girls now work or teach in public schools in N.E. Ohio.

I oppose the passage of SB 215. This bill is yet another try at Permitless Carry. Permitless Carry = Untrained Carry. It is common sense to require training before owning/using a deadly weapon. The amount of gun violence in the state of Ohio is appalling. We should be increasing education and training on safety for gun owners, not eliminating it altogether. The thought of thousands of untrained protesters carrying concealed weapons during these high stress situations terrifies me.

Also, Permitless Carry = Easy Access for Criminals. Since 1998, Ohio Background Checks have stopped 81,000 gun sales to prohibited purchasers including more than 37,000 illegal sales to convicted felons, more than 16,000 illegal sales to domestic abusers and more than 8,000 illegal sales to drug users.(1) We need to strengthen the Ohio background check system, not abandon it!

My family does not want to be in close proximity to people who are carrying hidden guns, ESPECIALLY if they do not have a permit, background check or even any training on how to handle their gun! My family has a right to life, safety and the pursuit of happiness without being under the constant threat of gun violence. Keep our permit system! Protect MY FAMILY'S RIGHTS! Please put a stop to this dangerous bill.

Keep Ohio's gun permit system! Reject SB 215.

Thank you,

Penny Hubbard

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1. State level NICS denial data obtained by Everytown via FOIA requests.