

Veterans and Public Safety Committee
Opposition Testimony on SB 215-Permitless Carry

Submitted by: Ruth Lapp

Dear Chairman Hoagland, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Thomas and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important issue.

I have been a resident and voter in Ohio for more than 50 years. As a retired psychologist and university professor I am opposed to this bill. If more guns were the answer to citizens' safety, we would be the safest country in the world. SB 2125 would expand the ability to carry concealed handguns to certain criminals and people charged with crimes who cannot currently obtain such a license. We need laws that will encourage responsible gun ownership. Widening the net of who can carry concealed weapons, when gun violence is increasing in our state, is not a way to make our community safer. This bill would also permit Ohioans without any training in the use of guns to carry a concealed handgun and sneak up on others. This would deprive us of the chance to protect ourselves by leaving the situation. This bill actually deprives the rest of us from our right to life, health and safety. Please Vote NO on this dangerous bill.

Thank you,

Ruth Lapp