

**Terry Johnson**

State Senator

14<sup>th</sup> Senate District



**Theresa Gavarone**

State Senator

2<sup>nd</sup> Senate District

**Sponsor Testimony**

Senate Bill 293

Ohio Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee

April 5, 2022

Chairman Hoagland, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 293.

Senate Bill 293 protects our Second Amendment right by prohibiting requiring any fees or liability insurance to possess a firearm. Across the country, we are seeing many different types of measures being passed in an effort to infringe on the right to keep and bear arms. In California, the San Jose City Council has recently voted to pass a mandate that would require all gun owners to pay an annual fee of \$25.00 as well as obtain liability insurance for owning a firearm.

While this move in particular is unprecedented, we want to ensure that such infringements on the Second Amendment are not considered acceptable here in Ohio. The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution clearly states: "The right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." Additionally, the Ohio Constitution states that "The people have the right to bear arms for their defense and security."

The Second Amendment and the Ohio Constitution ensure our God-given right to protect our lives and the lives of those we love. Such measures infringe on this constitutional right by putting undue burden and obstacles in the way of law-abiding gun owners.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have at this time.