



## A1§4 Protection PAC

October 24, 2023

RE: Support for H.B. 272

Good afternoon Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, Ranking member Humphrey, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee. Because I am unable to be there in person today, I'm submitting written testimony in support of H.B. 272.

The current prohibition against a concealed handgun license holder possessing a handgun in any part of any building that contains a courtroom is overly burdensome and likely unconstitutional under NYSRPA vs Bruen. In the past year many bans on carrying guns in "sensitive places" have been struck down in federal courts.

The carrying in buildings with courtroom is doubly prohibited in Ohio. Once because of the courtroom, and again because it is a government building. H.B. 272 seeks to rectify this problem.

It would be preferable to delete paragraphs (B)(7) from ORC 2923.126 (Duties of licensed individual) rather than continue to expand the list of places where carrying a handgun "might be" illegal depending on local rules that average license holder cannot easily be familiar with. Uniform firearms laws are easier to understand, follow and enforce.

Still, H.B. 272 would allow governments that want to comply with the NYSRPA vs Bruen ruling the ability to override the problematic state prohibition. While not ideal, it is clearly better than current law.

I thus support H.B. 272 and urge its passing.

I am available via phone/email/text and would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

Regards,

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Jim Irvine is a co-director of the FASTER Saves Lives program. He serves on the Board of Directors of Second Amendment Foundation and Buckeye Firearms Foundation.