



Buckeye Firearms Association

Memo

To: House Government Oversight Committee

From: Rob Sexton, Legislative Affairs Director
Buckeye Firearms Association

Date: October 30, 2023

Re: Support for HB 272

Chairman Peterson, members of the House Government Oversight Committee, I am here to speak on behalf of Buckeye Firearms Association as a proponent of House Bill 272. HB 272 would allow municipalities to permit people with a Concealed Handgun License to carry a firearm in a government building where a courtroom also exists, provided court is not in session.

This legislation removes yet another unnecessary burden on the constitutional rights of Ohioans to carry a firearm to protect themselves and their loved ones. The existence of prohibited places in Ohio law requires law abiding people to make difficult choices each and every day.

They can leave their firearms at home, making themselves vulnerable in a world where criminals have become increasingly emboldened as a result of the burdens that have been placed upon law enforcement and our justice system, which have created a perception of very little consequence for wrongdoing.

They can leave their firearms locked in their cars when they enter a government building. This choice leaves them vulnerable while they're inside the facility. And also makes their firearm a potential target for theft.

House Bill 272 seeks to eliminate these difficult choices and allows towns to make this decision for themselves. This is a common-sense approach, which also eliminates just one more soft target for those who would do us harm.

Buckeye Firearms Association strongly encourages the House Government Oversight Committee to pass House Bill 272 to allow it to be brought to the full House for consideration. Thank you for your time. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.