



**Before the Government Oversight Committee
House Bill 418 – Regards carrying a concealed handgun, licensee’s duties
Sponsor Testimony by Representative Richard D. Brown and
Representative Dani Isaacsohn
Tuesday, June 25th, 2024**

Chairman Peterson, Vice-Chair Thomas, and Ranking Member Humphrey, thank you for allowing Representative Brown and I to provide sponsor testimony to you and the Government Oversight Committee today in support of H.B. 418.

I will be brief. This legislation is about common sense, overwhelmingly popular policy that will save innocent lives—it’s as simple as that. Nine in ten Ohioans [said last year](#) that they believe people should need a permit in order to carry a concealed weapon. Ohioans have said loud and clear: we want people who are able to have concealed weapons in public to need a permit to do so. So why did the legislature repeal concealed carry in the first place? Why would the legislature have pursued a policy that was out of step with the will of the people, opposed by law enforcement, and almost certain to lead to the deaths of more Ohioans? I can’t answer that question with any certainty—because I wasn’t here when the repeal was passed—but I can say that it is time to put the safety of the people of our state over the worship of lethal weapons. By passing this bill and repealing permitless concealed carry, we would be doing our job as representatives of the people of Ohio entrusted with enacting laws to keep them safe. Please join us in doing the right thing and supporting this legislation.

Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Thomas, and Ranking Member Humphrey, and fellow members of the Government Oversight Committee, thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your questions.