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**Senate Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee**  
**Senate Bill 214 – Sponsor Testimony**  
**Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Wilson, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee, thank you for allowing me to present Senate Bill 214 for your consideration and discussion today.

SB 214 addresses an upcoming issue regarding House Resolution 1 currently being debated in the US Congress. After years of attempting to pass the Hearing Protection Act, Congress has decided to place language in HR 1 to completely remove suppressors from the National Firearms Act (NFA).

Suppressors, sometimes erroneously referred to as silencers, are very simple devices attached to the end of a barrel to muffle the explosion from the end of a firearm. Simply put, it does not silence a gun like we see in the movies. While dampening the sound of a round firing, the bullet traveling well over the speed of sound still creates the loud "cracking" sound as it breaks the sound barrier.

Current regulations under NFA requires gun owners to fill out a form, get finger-printed, submit a photo, be background checked, and pay a \$200 tax to own and possess a suppressor. NFA does not prohibit someone from owning or purchasing one, it simply creates a number of hoops a law-abiding citizen needs to jump through to own one of these items.

SB 214 simply removes suppressors from the list of "dangerous ordnances" in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) if the federal government does so in the coming months. We cannot completely pass SB 214 unless the federal government passes HR 1 with similar language. They are currently on schedule, as I understand it, to pass HR 1 on or near July 4th. If they do, then Ohio law will be in conflict with federal law. SB 214 simply removes language that references suppressors and the National Firearms Act of 1934 in two places.

If you look at the definition list of a "dangerous ordnance" in Section 2923.11 of the ORC, it contains items like nitroglycerin, rocket launchers, grenades, and torpedoes. As an owner of suppressors, I can tell you that a suppressor is not even close to any of these items. A suppressor

is at best, an attachment to a firearm that reduces the decibel level of a shot and reduces aggressive recoil. I can tell you that many law-abiding citizens own registered and stamped suppressors that they use with their firearms to prevent hearing damage and mitigate noise pollution.

SB 214 simply alters our list of "dangerous ordnances" in the ORC to match the regulations set forth in federal law. For law abiding citizens to continue adhering to both federal and Ohio law, the ORC must be consistent with anticipated federal changes.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, I ask you to consider SB 214 so that we may get it through the Senate and the House to coincide with the possible passage of HR 1 in Congress. Thank you for allowing me to testify and I will gladly answer any questions.