

House Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony HB 227

Submitted by:
Kelly Goshe

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and committee members:

It is absurd and asinine that Ohio citizens should have to waste valuable time writing in opposition of such an irresponsible, reckless, and reprehensible bill, but here we are. My name is Kelly Goshe -- I am an Ohio resident, a member of Moms Demand Action, and a mother to three young kids, and I am writing to tell the Ohio legislature that they should be ashamed of themselves for even allowing this bill to have a hearing. Let me provide you with an example of why this bill is so ridiculous. I have never handled a gun. I have never touched one. Aside from the handle and the trigger, I couldn't tell you what part of a gun is what. I have no idea how to turn on a gun safety lock. I have no idea how to properly carry or store a gun. But let's imagine that you pass this bill, and I go out and buy a gun that day and start carrying it around in my purse. I took my kids to a corn maze today where there were no signs posted prohibiting concealed carry, so in the dystopian universe in which this bill passes, I could have carried that gun in there with me. While I was there, we bought some kettle corn, and I had to dig through the million things that I carry in my purse to find my wallet. In the process, I yanked out my keys, my phone, my always handy first-aid kit, a hairbrush, a water bottle, a wad of tissues, and had a gun been in there, I probably would have yanked it out too because I was incredibly distracted and, again, I have no idea how to handle a gun. Does that sound like a good idea to you? If it sounds stupid to let someone like me, with no gun training whatsoever, carry a concealed weapon in a situation like that, guess what? It's because it is stupid. I would really like to think that I don't live in a stupid state. So please, reject HB227 and prove to me that we live in a state that has common sense and that cares about the safety of its citizens.