

## **Opposition Testimony on House Bill 227 Government Oversight Committee**

Submitted by:  
Mike Hubbard

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify. As a gun owner, I oppose HB 227. My wife and I own our home in Clinton, Ohio, a rural town outside of Canton. I have 3 grown daughters who all work in N.E. Ohio Schools and I am a volleyball coach at Jackson Middle school. I don't think my family or myself should have to be in close contact with an armed person who has not undergone a background check or been trained to use a gun. When someone is concealed carrying, we cannot see that they are armed and so we have no chance to protect ourselves by moving leaving the area. This is a violation of MY rights to life and health.

This bill will just enable more prohibited people to carry concealed guns. I believe that we should respect the opinions of Police organizations on legislation like this. It is very telling that the Ohio Chiefs of Police, The Ohio State Highway Patrol, and the Fraternal Order of Police have all opposed similar bills in the past. Police around the nation have spoken out about the dangers of having multiple civilians pull out their guns in the middle of a shooting event. In the words of one police chief from Montgomery County, Maryland, "a cop shows up and there's people with guns in their hands. We don't know how to tell the good guys with a gun from the bad guys with a gun". The Police Chief of Dallas said essentially the same thing after a mass shooting in which 12 Officers were killed, "But the presence of up to 30 people carrying rifles during a protest last week at which 12 police officers were shot complicated law enforcement's attempts to identify the gunman, Dallas Police Chief David Brown said Monday. "We don't know who the good guy is versus the bad guy when everyone

starts shooting.” Now add the fact that, if this bill passes in Ohio, those carrying concealed weapons will not necessarily have had ANY training with their guns and may be prohibited from owning a gun. The result of the ensuing chaos will be more deaths and injuries to both Police and innocent civilians.

This committee should follow the advice of those who spend their career protecting us and vote no on Permitless Carry.

Respectfully,  
Mike Hubbard