

House Government Oversight Committee  
Opposition Testimony HB 227 (Permitless Carry)  
Submitted by: Jennifer Logan

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important public safety matter.

I am an Ohio resident and registered voter. I am a retired Assistant Vice President of a bank. This bill would make it harder for small businesses to succeed. Many Ohioans are concerned about the level of violent gun crime in our shopping areas, restaurants and theaters. They worry about some guy sitting next to them who is carrying a concealed, illegal gun. So they go out less. When customers stay home to eat and shop online, many small businesses lose money. COVID will hopefully pass, but our pandemic of gun violence in Ohio will not, unless you defeat bad laws like HB 227.

I am also a grandmother with two students in one of Ohio's public school systems. This bill would endanger Ohioans because it would expand who can carry concealed handguns to include certain criminals and people charged with crimes who cannot currently obtain a concealed weapons license. It would permit Ohioans to carry concealed handguns without background checks, which would endanger other Ohioans. (Ohio law enforcement officers agree). People who carry concealed weapons in our communities definitely should have at least 8 hrs of training with their weapon (or more!) After all, if someone wants to get a license to drive a car, they have to prove they can operate a vehicle safely. It would be ridiculous to give someone a driver's license after only watching an online video. A handgun carry permit should be no different. I strongly urge the committee to vote against Permitless Carry for the safety of all Ohioans young and old.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Logan