

Testimony on House Bill 227
House Government Oversight Committee
October 13, 2021

Submitted by:
Shannon Mulligan

Chair Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Sweeney, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 227. My name is Shannon Mulligan and I am an Ohio resident and voter, a mom of an 8-year-old, a wife, and a business owner. I have lived in Columbus for 10 years. I am writing this testimony as a very concerned citizen and a supporter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, a grassroots movement of mothers and others fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment while protecting us from gun violence. As a volunteer with the organization I have seen firsthand the impact of the gun violence epidemic on communities in Columbus. HB 227 would gut the license requirements in our state and would allow people with dangerous histories and those without training to carry loaded handguns on our streets.

I would like to ask the bill sponsors or members of the committee that support this bill, what law enforcement officials or organizations have you consulted on this? Sheriffs Association and Chiefs of Police have come out in opposition to this legislation in the past and if we are “listening to the experts” we should look no further than our men and women in uniform. If they are not supportive of this bill then how could you be? If more guns in more places were the answer, Ohio would be the safest place in the world. As we see on a daily basis, that is not true. We are in an epidemic of gun violence. HB 227 does nothing to stem this epidemic. For the safety of all your constituents, please oppose this dangerous bill.

With respect,
Shannon Mulligan