

House Government Oversight Committee
Opposition Testimony HB 227
Submitted by: Pat Krummrich

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 a retired health care provider from Akron Children's Hospital where I treated many patients with gun injuries. Both my husband and I have been Republicans for most of our adult life. I vehemently oppose HB 227, Permitless Carry.

As a bereaved parent, I understand the pain of losing a child. As a health professional, I understand how devastating gun injuries are to our children.

I beg you to think about what you are doing to Ohio's children and their families.

The idea of having people carry concealed, loaded guns in our grocery stores, parking lots, restaurants, etc., is frightening to many Ohioans. The sponsor of this bill said, "Well, if you worry about guns, don't have a gun." That hardly addresses the problem does it? That's like saying, if you're worried about drunk drivers, don't drink and drive. Of course I don't drink and drive but that doesn't protect me from people who do. Likewise, if this bill passes, I have to worry about some idiot (drunk or sober) sitting next to my family who not only may be wearing a gun under his clothes, he may be a lousy shot! If this bill passes, I can't even assume that this guy has even had any firearm training! I can't assume that he has passed a background check and does not have a criminal history.

Republicans have always claimed to be the party of law and order. I'm tired of hearing "Criminals don't obey the law". Then why have ANY laws? Why have speed limits if criminals will exceed them? Because having the laws makes it possible for Police to enforce them and save lives.

The overwhelming majority of Ohioans want common sense gun laws because they save lives. Please act like the Republicans I used to know and vote NO on HB 227.

Thank you for your attention,
Pat Krummrich