

# WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 10/12/21

Name: Roy C. Barker

Are you representing: Yourself  Organization

Organization (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: Retired Engineer & Parish Administrator

Address: 6401 Wynwright Drive

City: Dublin State: OH Zip: 43016

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes  No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB227

Specific Issue: would allow Ohioans to carry hidden, loaded handguns in public without a permit or safety training

Are you testifying as a: Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes  No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? None

Please provide a brief statement on your position: HB 227 would put Ohio children, families, and communities at risk by allowing people to carry hidden, loaded handguns in public without a permit or safety training. Eliminating Ohio's concealed handgun license requirement would allow people with dangerous histories and those without any firearm safety training to carry loaded handguns in crowded town centers and on city streets. Eighty-eight percent of Americans think a person should get a permit before carrying a concealed handgun in public. HB 227 would allow those with no firearms safety training, violent criminals, and some drug offenders to carry concealed handguns in public.

States that have enacted permitless carry laws have seen a substantial increase in firearm violence. Ohio voters overwhelmingly support the current law. Lawmakers should put the safety of their constituents first, and reject HB 227.

I am not proposing to remove firearms from citizens, nor am I speaking out against the Constitutional right of citizens to have firearms in a trained militia. I am speaking out against the indiscriminate possession of firearms by those who are not trained in safety, those who use them inappropriately, those who put children in danger, and those who have lost the privilege of citizenship by their illegal activities.

I urge you to LISTEN to the majority of citizens who want licensing and safety for the possession of firearms. The protection of the citizens of Ohio is your job. Being influenced by vocal minorities who do not have safety and protection of the vulnerable is a violation of your oath.

*Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.*