

September 21, 2021

Chairman Hoagland, Vice Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Thomas:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of SB 156.

SB 156 is common sense legislation that simply reinforces what this body did almost unanimously last session with SB 140. All SB 156 will do is to ensure that local political bodies do not undo the will of the legislature by keeping in place or enacting a confusing patchwork of knife laws that only serve to trap the unwary. Numerous states have enacted similar legislation and it works.

SB 156 is important to me, my employees, my business and my customers. If I or one of my employees, or a customer, takes a knife we manufacture right here in Ohio, and that is legal under Ohio statute, and travels within Ohio, we should not have to worry that by simply crossing a city or town line that we are suddenly in violation of the local law. There is no way for any resident of this state to readily figure out that the legal knife in their pocket is suddenly an illegal knife by crossing a city or town line. This is simply unfair. Citizens have a reasonable expectation that the law is applied consistently throughout the state. They have a reasonable expectation that a knife that is legal in Ohio is legal everywhere in Ohio. That is only fair. This is exactly what SB 156 will accomplish.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on this important matter to my business, my workers and my customers.

Sincerely,

Rick Hinderer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Hinderer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.