

Veterans and Public Safety Committee
Opposition Testimony on SB 215-Permitless Carry
Submitted by: Connie Rubin

Dear Chairman Hoagland, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Thomas and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important issue.

I am a resident of Ohio and I strongly oppose SB 215.

SB215 is even worse than the bill that recently passed the House. Not only does SB 215 eliminate all training and any background checks by local Sheriff's Departments, it even allows people who have been convicted of a misdemeanor assault on a police officer to conceal carry.

As if that is not bad enough, anyone stopped by a police officer for a possible traffic violation, doesn't have to warn the law enforcement officer that they have a conceal carry weapon on their person or in their vehicle. It also limits a police officer's ability to stop a suspicious person who may be carrying a firearm. These expansion of rights for Ohio gun owners endanger law enforcement.

Even without those additional possibly-deadly additional components, Ohio's law enforcement community has opposed permit-less carry, including the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, the Ohio Assn. of Police Chiefs, Buckeye State Sheriff's Assn, the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Assn. and the Prosecuting Attorney's Assn.

Another egregious addition in SB 215 would expand Ohio's new Stand Your Ground Law, and give a shooter the right to claim immunity from prosecution, even before evidence has been gathered or reviewed, and without input from an injured party. This will put any County Prosecutor at an immediate disadvantage as they try to represent an injured party, or the family of a deceased victim. Reject this addition, please, and let Ohio's law enforcement community do its job of collecting the facts of every shooting.

Thank you allowing me to share my concerns about this piece (these pieces) of legislation that (both) decrease reasonable training regulations for civilians who carry firearms, thereby endangering all the rest of us.

Please reject this dangerous bill,

Constance Rubin