

Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee
Opposition Testimony on Senate Bill 215

Submitted by:
Mike Hubbard

Chairman Hoagland and committee members,

Thank you for allowing me to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 215. My name is Mike Hubbard. I own a rifle but I object to Permitless Carry because it endangers my family and my community. I am a lifelong resident of Ohio. My wife and I own our home in Clinton, Ohio, a small rural town outside of Canton. I have 3 grown daughters who all work in local schools in N.E. Ohio.

Ohio citizens have made it clear that they believe we should have permits and background checks in order to carry guns in public. It makes absolutely no sense to make it easier for felons, drug dealers and domestic abusers to concealed carry a loaded gun. A 2019 poll by Quinnipiac showed that almost 90% of Ohioans favor gun permits and background checks. When this bill passed in the house, Representative Bill Seitz thanked the NRA and Buckeye Firearms for convincing him and other committee members that even if SB 215 passed, most Ohio gun owners would still voluntarily get a permit because they want to enjoy Reciprocity with surrounding states. Of course, the gun lobby is working as hard as it can to pass Permitless Carry in all our neighboring states so how long will that incentive last? However, since most gun owners see benefits to Permits, then there's no good reason to eliminate them.

I object to someone carrying a loaded gun around me or my family when they may not even know how to use it. A gun is a deadly weapon that must be handled correctly. This bill would get rid of minimum training requirements for concealed carry.

All in all, this is a really bad bill. You need to vote no on this one!

Respectfully,
Mike Hubbard
Clinton, OH

