

Testimony on Senate Bill 215  
Veterans and Public Safety Committee  
December 13, 2021

Submitted by:  
Susan Padrino Iler, MD

Chair Senator Haogland, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 215.

My name is Susan Padrino Iler and I am an Ohio resident and voter. I have three children in Ohio public schools and I say a prayer for their safety from gun violence each day I send them off to school. I shudder to imagine the risk of increasing the number of untrained individuals carrying firearms in my kids' schools. Their teachers are experts in education and I know they are dedicated to my children, but that doesn't mean they know how to use or secure a deadly weapon, especially since SB215 virtually eliminates the requirement for essential training. Bringing guns to school, especially in the hands of untrained individuals, would only increase the risk of gun violence. I'm concerned about my young children having to deal with the fear of a weapon being taken from a teacher by an unstable student, or of an accidental discharge. If there is ever an active shooter situation in school, I want my children's teachers to be attending to their safety, not grabbing a gun and ... doing what, I don't even know. Without expert training and immediate and direct communication with law enforcement, how can they even be sure who they're shooting at in the chaos of a shooting event? Arming untrained school employees would not make my children safer in an active shooter situation. As a physician, I believe in looking at the data and it's clear that more guns and less training would make our schoolchildren LESS safe.

Please vote against SB215 to help protect my children and all our children.

Sincerely,  
Susan Padrino Iler, MD