

PREVENTION THROUGH EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AWARENESS.

To: House Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations

From: Jennifer Thorne, Executive Director, Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence

Re: HB 142, House Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations Hearing, Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Date: May 22, 2017

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Lipps, Ranking Member Leland and members of the Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations: Thank you for the opportunity to share testimony with you on HB 142, which would eliminate the requirement that a concealed handgun licensee notify a law enforcement officer that the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun when stopped.

Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence opposes HB 142. We feel that the bad actions of a few individuals in law enforcement should not impact what is currently a good policy that protects public safety.

Last week in this committee, we heard testimony from proponents of this legislation that included a video of a traffic stop where a law enforcement officer acted improperly. However, as we learned at the conclusion of testimony, the law enforcement officers involved in that incident lost their jobs. We therefore see no need to change the current policy that gives individuals with concealed handgun licenses the responsibility of informing law enforcement that they are carrying a concealed handgun when stopped.

Thank you again for your time. I am happy to address any questions you might have.