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OHIOANS FOR CONCEALED CARRY
HOUSE FEDERALISM & INTERSTATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE
TESTIMONY ON HB 233
JUNE 20, 2017

Chair Roegner, Ranking Member Leland and members of the House Federalism & Interstate Relations Committee. My name is Darin Moore and I am a Coordinator of Ohioans for Concealed Carry (OFCC). I wish to testify in favor of HB 233.

OFCC has long sought the change to concealed carry law that HB 233 addresses. This bill reflects the common sense reality of how a violation of a “no guns sign” happens today anyway. Realistically, lawfully armed citizens are not carrying a concealed firearm to be a public threat or to intimidate others. Quite simply, we carry simply to protect ourselves while in public. The current serious penalty for violation of a sign posted pursuant to division (C)(3)(a) of 49 section 2923.126 is currently an extreme response to a minor request.

Additionally, towards the end of this bill (lines 1394-1397) is a vital correction to an oversight from the last General Assembly’s rush to get SB199 through during lame duck session. Essentially, the law as it stands today permits local political subdivisions to authorize CHL holders to carry in public buildings (so long as it isn’t a courthouse or police station, obviously) but due to the aforementioned oversight that same building is still required to be posted with a “no guns sign”. Lines 1394-1397 correct that oversight by permitting the omission of the “no guns sign” when the governing body has enacted a policy to permit carry. This is appropriate to reflect the intent of last session’s SB199.

Again, Chair Roegner and members of the House Federalism & Interstate Relations Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important matter.