

**Ohio Gun Owners**

Ohio’s Grassroots Gun Rights Organization

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 04, 2018

**TO:** Honorable Members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee

**FROM:** Chris Dorr

Director, Ohio Gun Owners

**RE:** House Bill 142

Chairman Coley, Vice Chairman Uecker, Ranking Member Schiavoni, and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill 142 today.

I’m Chris Dorr, the Director for Ohio Gun Owners, and my testimony to you today is against Sub HB142.

Ohio Gun Owners was happy to support the original HB 142 because it removed the onerous, anti-gun provision in current Ohio law that forces a citizen to notify an officer that they are exercising a Right.

In fact, Ohio Gun Owners was happy to join with Ohioans for Concealed Carry and Buckeye Firearms Association to testify in favor of the original language early last year.

That’s why we mobilized our members about it in the first place - because it was a good bill that accomplished a complete restoration of a right that had been lost, and a right that many gun owners chafe at the thought of.

What this bill represents now is an appeasement of anti-gun organizations like the Fraternal Order of Police, who routinely adopt positions in opposition to the oaths their membership all swears to uphold.

All of the gun rights organizations in Ohio do, I believe, support the no-compromise version, if this committee were to adopt it and pass it.

John Hohenwarter, the former lobbyist for the NRA, put it extremely well in his previous proponent testimony on the original version of this bill when he said that HB 142 as originally written fixed mistakes that were committed in the early 2000’s that were made to get concealed carry passed in the first place.

But back to this compromised substitute language, none of the underlying principles have changed by adopting this watered down version.

Criminals will still refuse to produce their CHL cards when they are asked for their ID.

The FOP doesn’t like to admit it, but if a criminal has the intent to kill a cop, they’ll ignore this compromised language just like they ignore the current law.

You see, we don’t have problems here in Ohio with law abiding gun owners threatening law enforcement officers.

It isn’t law-abiding gun owners that disrespect, threaten or shoot at law enforcement officers.

Heck, I’ll let you in on a little secret, a secret that you won’t hear from the politicized Fraternal Order of Police: law enforcement officers treat everyone as if they have a firearm ALREADY!

And no amount of legislation on either side of this issue is going to change that.

But as for gun owners, well, we aren’t falling for these canards anymore.   
  
Legislation like this will not be accepted as a substitute for passing complete reforms that fix constitutional violations of our Second Amendment freedoms.

Please adopt the original language of HB142, in whatever way it needs to be done, FIX HB142, and pass it that way.

I thank you for this opportunity to testify before you today in opposition to this current Sub HB142.