Ohio House Government Oversight Committee Opposition Testimony on SB 215-Permitless Carry Submitted by: Constance Rubin

Dear Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important issue.

I am a resident of Ohio and I strongly oppose SB 215.

I know the gun industry, and its paid gun lobbyists, are constantly talking about 2nd amendment rights. But about 1,500 Ohioans die every year from gun violence and 3 or 4 times that number are shot but survive, often with lifelong consequences. Now WE are demanding OUR rights to health and safety. Common-sense gun laws protect US, the citizens of Ohio. Do what is right for Ohio, reject SB 215.

This bill is a slap in the face to law enforcement. Not only does SB 215 eliminate the requirement for all training and background checks, it even allows people who have been convicted of a misdemeanor assault on a police officer to conceal carry. As if that is not bad enough, anyone stopped by a police officer for a possible traffic violation, won't have to warn the law enforcement officer that they have a conceal carry weapon on their person or in their vehicle. It also limits a police officer's ability to stop a suspicious person who may be carrying a firearm. These expansion of rights for Ohio gun owners endanger law enforcement.

However, <u>even</u> if you amend this bill to exclude the sections about Duty To Notify (as I expect you will rightfully be forced to do!) SB 215 is still a terrible bill that you must reject!

Even without those additional possibly-deadly additional components, Ohio's law enforcement community has opposed permit-less carry, including the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, the Ohio Assn. of Police Chiefs, Buckeye State Sheriff's Assn, the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Assn. and the Prosecuting Attorney's Assn. Thank you allowing me to share my concerns about this piece of legislation that decreases reasonable training regulations for civilians who carry firearms, thereby endangering all the rest of us.

Please reject this dangerous bill,

Constance Rubin