

LWV Ohio Statehouse Day – April 26, 2016
Lobbyist Report – Gun Safety
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House Bill 48, nicknamed the “Guns Everywhere Bill,” passed the Ohio House in November 2015 and is now assigned to the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee.

HB 48 is a modification to Ohio’s licensing laws to carry a concealed loaded weapon, commonly referred to as CCW. The original CCW Bill was signed into law in 2004 and has been modified on numerous occasions. This modification is the most likely gun legislation to move this session.

In meeting with legislators, LWV visitors need to protest the bill’s unfounded premise that so-called “victim zones” attract shooters. This perceived vulnerability of so-called gun-free zones has emboldened a wave of legislative action throughout the country to expand the freedom of individuals to carry firearms in previously forbidden places, such as schools or private businesses.

Perhaps the most glaring flaw in the victim zone argument is its underlying assumption that shooters are rational actors. In reality, many shooters target a location based on an emotional grievance or an attachment to a particular person or place. There is no evidence that mass killers select locations based on gun policy, or that lawful gun owners have been able to intervene to stop these attacks. (1)

On the back is a summary report of this bill provided by our coalition partners at the Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence.

¹ Armed with Reason: DEBUNKING THE GUN FREE ZONE MYTH: “MASS MURDER MAGNETS”.
([http://www.armedwithreason.com/debunking-the-gun-free-zone-myth-mass-murder-magnets /](http://www.armedwithreason.com/debunking-the-gun-free-zone-myth-mass-murder-magnets/))



Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence

ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM GUN VIOLENCE.

Ohio HB 48, "Guns Everywhere Bill"

Updated January 28, 2016

In the wake of the tragic campus shooting in Roseburg, OR, and other high profile gun violence incidents, the gun lobby is continue to push for more hidden, loaded weapons in Ohio's public spaces. By exploiting the myth that gun free zones are "vulnerable spaces," which they continue to perpetuate despite all credible evidence to the contrary, they are working to benefit the bottom lines of gun manufacturers.

We know the truth is that gun-free zones don't attract more mass shootings and that having concealed weapons holders at the scenes of mass shootings doesn't help.¹ The same ideas apply to protection from terrorists with guns. Having "good guys with guns" in these already dangerous situations simply doesn't help and only serves to make it more difficult for law enforcement to do their jobs.

HB 48, the Guns Everywhere Bill, was introduced on February 10, 2015. The original version of the bill extended "affirmative defenses" to charges related to guns in motor vehicles, and expanded concealed carry to places of worship. Both of those provisions were removed during the committee process through the introduction of a substitute bill. At the same time, a provision from HB 20 was included in the substitute bill that would allow guns in parking lots of K-12 schools.

Details on the version of that passed out of the House State Government committee on June 17 are below:

Sub HB 48 would allow:

- Administrators at institutes of higher education to authorize campus carry with no liability.
- Concealed carry license holders to leave their weapons unattended in locked vehicles in school safety zones, providing an additional source of stolen guns for the underground weapons market.
- Local authorities to approve hidden, loaded weapons in certain government buildings.

The bill would also allow hidden, loaded weapons in these other currently prohibited places:

- The over 8,000 daycare homes and centers in Ohio.
- Private aircraft.
- Public areas of police stations.
- Public areas of airport terminals.

Additionally, the bill would reduce the penalty for carrying a concealed weapon in a gun free zone from a felony to a misdemeanor.

This proposed expansion of hidden, loaded weapons will do nothing to improve Ohio's safety or reduce gun violence, and will only serve to further normalize the presence of weapons in public spaces. In fact, this bill only furthers the interests of individuals and companies who profit from the sale of these dangerous weapons.

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