

Resolution No. 291-2022

**By Council Members Slife and Conwell,
Bishop, Gray, Griffin, Hairston, Harsh,
Howse, Jones, Kazy, Maurer, McCormack,
Mooney, Polensek, Santana, Spencer,
Starr and Mayor Bibb**

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Strongly opposing the Ohio General Assembly's passage and Governor DeWine's signing into law Senate Bill 215, that puts Ohio citizens at risk by allowing qualifying adults to carry concealed handguns without a license and necessary safety training; and urging the Ohio General Assembly to repeal this law.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 215, passed by the Ohio General Assembly and signed by Governor DeWine, will take effect on June 13, 2022, allowing Ohioans 21 years and older to carry concealed handguns without a license and the necessary safety training; and

WHEREAS, this bill also eliminates the requirement for a concealed handgun carrier to notify a police officer that they are armed when stopped, unless asked by the officer; and

WHEREAS, current Ohio law, requires a license to carry a concealed handgun across Ohio that includes eight hours of necessary safety and firing training, which will now be optional; and

WHEREAS, this bill was passed and signed over objections from law enforcement groups, including the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio, county sheriffs, Ohio Mayors Alliance, and Democrats, emphasizing the danger that taking away licensing and training requirements poses to law enforcement officers and communities; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is considered to be one of the major threats to public health and safety in communities across the country and Ohio; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rate for firearm deaths in the State of Ohio was 15.2 per 100,000 in 2020, which exceeded the national rate of 12.0; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland and other urban centers in Ohio are deeply affected by violent crime involving firearms; Cleveland Division of Police data showed over a 13% increase in homicides involving a gun from 2020 to 2021; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland seized more than 3,000 guns off the streets in 2021, a 33% increase in seizure over 2020, according to The Plain Dealer; and

WHEREAS, while Cleveland works to reduce the number of guns that lead to violent crime, the State of Ohio's deregulation of handguns will increase gun ownership and proliferation of unregulated guns in our community; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council strongly opposes the Ohio General Assembly's passage and Governor DeWine's signing into law Senate Bill 215, that puts Ohio citizens at risk by allowing qualifying adults to carry concealed handguns without a license and necessary safety training; and urging the Ohio General Assembly to repeal this law.

Section 2. That this Council directs the Clerk of Council to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Ohio General Assembly, members of the Northeast Ohio Legislative Delegation and Governor Mike DeWine.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

/jho

3-21-2022

FOR: Council Member Slife

