



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 737		DATE: 2/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ArnieDienoff@Yahoo.Com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 4:50 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Support of this Bill. I feel that if a party wants to transport and secure weapons in a legal and lawful way within their vehicle on a Surface Parking Lot or a Parking Garage on Private Property, that they be allowed to do so in a legal fashion.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN MYERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: susanmyers@socket.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 4:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I wish to lend my support to HB 737. Let me start by saying I will always prefer being allowed to have my concealed pistol on my person. But, in situations where this is not permitted I should, at the very least, have the option to have it locked up as nearby to me as possible. I especially like the idea of an employer providing secure storage areas for firearms if the lot is to be restricted. This actually reminds me of a situation I find myself subject to when visiting the capitol to give testimony at public hearings. The law governing firearms within the Capitol allows me to carry concealed within the building, but not into the hearing rooms. As such, I am forced to walk to and from my car unarmed, sometimes after dark. Being a petite woman who takes her personal safety quite seriously I do not appreciate this and would love for a storage area to be made available to those like me who desire not to be stripped of our Second Amendment rights beyond this building in order just to exercise our First. As I began, on body is the most secure place for a CCW permit holder's weapon to be. But, allowing it to remain locked in our vehicles as near to the door as possible is a more than reasonable compromise. Those who choose to carry firearms for self-defense deserve to have laws on the books which support this lifestyle instead of being road blocks to it. I urge the Committee members to vote in support of HB737. Thank you, Susan Myers Missouri State Director – The DC Project - Women for Gun Rights SWMO Chapter Leader - TAWW Shooting Chapters (The Well Armed Woman)



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BENJAMIN COHEN		PHONE NUMBER: 5738754487	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: STUDENTS DEMAND ACTION--COLUMBIA		TITLE: VOLUNTEER LEADER, STUDENTS DEMAND ACTION	
ADDRESS: 614 W STEWART RD			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL: bencohen02@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 4:55 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Benjamin Cohen. I'm a senior at Hickman High School and a leader in Columbia's citywide Students Demand Action group. I'm grateful for the opportunity to share written testimony in opposition to HB 737. Under current Missouri law, it's unlawful to bring guns into parking lots for many public and private businesses, schools, and organizations without the consent of that organization or private business. House bill 737 would allow people to carry hidden, loaded guns in vehicles onto the property of all public and private organizations whose rules keep their property safe from guns. If enacted, this extreme bill would force private property owners to allow guns in cars on their property. This bill would vastly expand the places where firearms are legally allowed in Missouri, multiplying the public places where people would fear the threat of gun violence. This bill would significantly affect the safety and autonomy of many of the places I have grown up in, including schools I attended for years. The idea that guns would be forced into these spaces without consent from owners or administrators is deeply troubling, and frightens me on behalf of kids who would have to grow up with HB 737 in place. Guns do not belong in our educational facilities, including parking lots. Gun ownership is a personal decision. Firearm safety, specifically safe storage and transportation, are responsibilities that are inherent in that decision. But the decision to allow firearms on one's property must also be a personal decision—one made by property owners. Please vote no on this dangerous bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANICE MERICLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jmericle726@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 9:07 AM
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I am an advocate for children and youth in Missouri. I do not want to see anymore Missouri youth dying due to gun violence. I am asking our lawmakers to use common sense and not implement laws that would make it even easier for our youth to get a hold of a gun. I oppose HB 568 which would make Missouri one of a small minority of states to force colleges and universities to allow handguns on their campuses. The suicide rates in MO among the 10-24 age group is up 105% over the last decade. Missouri's gun homicide rate is worse than all but two other states and is more than twice as high as the national average. • With a rate of 6.63 gun deaths for every 100,000 people among people under the age of 21, the state ranks third in the nation. • In Missouri, shootings are the leading cause of death for young people. Colleges and universities, which have traditionally prohibited guns on campus, are relatively safe from gun violence. But campus life is rife with other risk factors that make the presence of guns potentially dangerous – including heavy alcohol and drug use, mental health issues and suicide. Please vote for the welfare of our youth, the safety of our college and university campuses. The numbers in Missouri tell us we need to do things differently to protect our youth and all citizens. Thank you, Janice Mericle



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAREN ROGERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mizzouatheart@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 11:15 AM
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I oppose HB 787 because it infringes on personal property rights of business owners and individuals. I am particularly concerned that people who visit businesses where alcohol is served may drink and get into an altercation inside the business, then access their personal firearms. While the bill grants property owners liability protections for such an incident, it does nothing to protect the people who are victims, which is reprehensible. As an attorney who advised clients on employment and workplace safety issues, I also understand the risk of guns in workplace parking lots. It's too easy for a terminated employee to easily access that gun to fire on the human resources manager who delivered the bad news. More people carrying more guns in more places is not going to make us safer, and private property owners should be able to completely restrict firearms on their property. Please vote NO on this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY D. MONTGOMERY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: montgomerykd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 9:28 AM
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I absolutely do not support allowing concealed firearms on college campuses. The vast majority of college students are between the ages of 18 - 22, during which young men and women are still not able to avoid making impulsive decisions based on brain development. The increase in and prevalence of depression, stress, high risk taking behaviors, excessive drinking and the fact that these are the ages during which the onset of several severe mental illnesses occurs would all indicate that having access to firearms is not only foolhardy but ill advised. I would urge this committee to remove this bill from consideration.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARC BECKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marc@yachana.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 8:43 AM
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As a professor at Truman State University, we do not want firearms in our classrooms nor do we want easier access to firearms that just leads to higher suicide rates.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY GROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marygva@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 2:04 PM
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I retired from nursing from a large medical center in St. Louis. We have several large covered cement parking lots for employees and patients. It is not uncommon for those with unstable personality disorders to be among us in the lots, along with very frail and debilitated patients and children. Some patients lack impulse control and some are maximally stressed due to mortal medical diagnosis. Our healthcare workers are already overburdened dealing with the uncontrolled pandemic raging through our hospitals & communities. Adding guns to the mix puts healthcare workers and those seeking treatments in an untenable & dangerous environment. Can you imagine bullets ricocheting off cement walls randomly hitting innocents? Please place yourselves in those shoes in hospitals across our state. This bill also interferes with the autonomy of the business and private homes to have a say in firearms on their property. Isn't that a violation of our liberties? Please vote No on HB 737.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY AMES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: njoames@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 12:31 PM
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I am strongly opposed to guns in public places. Colleges especially, young adults are immature, impulsive, and have raging hormones controlling their emotions. Colleges are places for education not macho gun display. This would decrease safety.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS HASTINGS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tfhastings@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 9:50 AM
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Please do NOT even consider a law to allow concealed carry of firearms on college campuses or churches.