



The Honorable William G. Batchelder  
Speaker of the House  
Statehouse  
77 S. High St, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH. 43215  
VIA FACSIMILE

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Honorable Speaker Batchelder,

On behalf of Ohioans for Concealed Carry and Ohio's law abiding gun owners, I am writing to respectfully request that you announce a fast-track schedule for SB17 and SB61 so that both bills can proceed to the House floor as quickly as rules permit. I offer four reasons for our request:

1. As you know, the Senate in April passed legislation that mirrors HB45 and HB54 (SB17 and SB61), legislation the House just passed by a substantial majority Wednesday. Over the past two sessions, and after many months of debate, the legislature's majority position on this matter has been made exceedingly clear. We hope that there is no reason for members of the House to spend countless *additional* hours expressing the same positions on both sides of the debate, simply to come to the same majority conclusion that they already achieved in April.
2. Opponents of this legislation — with the assistance of news media trolling for ratings and sales — have morphed the "restaurant carry" debate into a campaign of fear. Print and broadcast media have been a fountainhead of intentional and often egregious misinformation about HB45. Unfortunately, the longer the propaganda persists, *the greater the challenge to pro-HB45 lawmakers* (a strong majority in both chambers) in educating their constituents and ridding themselves of the media-induced stigma surrounding HB45.
3. Currently, SB17 is the superior bill due to an amendment adopted in the Ohio Senate that permits expunging of prior past acts. As you know in order for this amendment to be adopted into HB45 the Ohio Senate would need to send the legislation back to the Ohio House for another floor vote. Should the Ohio House fast track SB17 (and SB61) the legislation could be sent to the Governor with one less procedural hurdle.
4. Debate on this bill is fresh in the minds of members of the Ohio House, and it would seem reasonable to bring this bill directly to the House Floor where ample debate has just taken place.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your support for a fast-track schedule so that a floor vote will occur comfortably in advance of summer recess. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jeff Garvas, President  
Ohioans For Concealed Carry

Cc: Senator Schaffer, Senator Wilson, Senator Grendell (via electronic email). Representative Bubb, Representative Johnson, Representative Maag, Representative Martin, Representative Mecklenborg (via facsimile)