

Testimony of Kansas Moms - Richard Martinez
Permitless Carry
March 13, 2015

Members of the House State and Federal Affairs Committee -

Good morning. My name is Richard Martinez. I am the father of Christopher Ross Michaels-Martinez, who was shot and killed in Isla Vista - another victim of senseless preventable gun violence in our country.

Christopher was a college student - twenty years old - with his entire life ahead of him.

The pain from Chris's death is too great and something no family should have to experience. That's why I'm here today. It's because I am committed to working to reduce gun violence so that we can spare other parents the anguish that my family has endured. I'm here to speak in opposition to SB45.

S.B. 45 would effectively dismantle Kansas's concealed carry licensing system, making it legal for dangerous people, and those who have never handled a gun, to carry one hidden and loaded throughout the state. Our children deserve better.

Nothing can change what happened to my son but we can take action to prevent future tragedies. Since the day Chris died I have been determined to speak up for those that have died. Do not make Kansas a more dangerous place by passing SB45.

Thank you.