

Tesimony H.B. No. 585

for May 16th, 2018

I, Paris Imani Caliman, am in favour of the House Bill Number 585 for more reasons than I may be able to explain. The first day I heard of children dying from the reckless obtaining of guns was when Sandy Hook appeared all around the country on the five o'clock news. It didn't scare me much until I got into high school and February 14th spun around and another shooting occurred. Seventeen students just around my age, dead and why? They had died at the hands of another student who had obtained a gun. They died at the hands of a reckless and mentally ill teenager. I tell you my testimony in order to show you what I have been feeling because of no gun restriction laws for the past few months. I walk into school afraid of what may happen next. I see a kid with a black hoodie and my body shakes because I am overcome with fear. Fear that I may die because of that child. I hear a loud crash at school and my immediate thought is to duck because that may be the sound of a bullet coming out of an assault rifle. With House Bill Number 585, my fears will be lessened. With House Bill Number 585, restrictions will be put onto those that have committed a felony, are a fugitive, drug dependent, mentally ill, been dishonourably discharged, an illegal immigrant, someone with revoked citizenship or a person who is considered an extreme risk. If these restrictions were put onto obtaining a gun years ago many of the mass shootings in this country may have not occurred. If this bill is passed, having a dangerous ordinance such as a gun with the above qualifications would make it a third degree felony. I reach to the depths of your hearts, hoping you will hear my plea for help. I do not want to walk into my school each day and be afraid to die. Fear has no place in our schools