



THE COACH HALL FOUNDATION

For The Protection Of Our School Children

Substitute House Bill 318 Proponent Testimony 2018

Chairman Oelsager, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Member Skindell, and distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 318, legislation that would establish basic qualifications and training requirements of school resource officers.

I am Frank Hall, a football coach and study hall moderator at Chardon High School on February 27, 2012.

Please allow me to start with my story of February 27, 2012

That morning, a Monday, started like every morning, I was in the cafeteria talking to kids when the shooting started. My thoughts immediately were to protect my kids and get the shooter out of the cafeteria. I ran towards him and he took a shot at me and I ducked behind a Pepsi machine. He ran out of the cafeteria and for a brief moment I thought the kids were safe and then it hit me, he was in the hallway wear students were running into lockdown. I gave chase until he ran out of the building, across the parking lot, and into the woods.

I returned into the building, it was in lockdown, not a sole in the hallways, not a sound in the building. When I got back to the cafeteria and I took care of Russell, Demetrius and Danny. I spoke to them, I asked them to hang on, we prayed. All three boys died as a result of their wounds inflicted by gunshots fired at them in their school.

I want my life back to the way it was on February 26th 2012.

Six years we lost 3 young men who were murdered in their school, and these murders still continue in our country. Time and time again we offer our thoughts and prayers to the families of the victims, the schools, and communities affected by these tragedies, and these murders still continue in our country. It is time to be act to prevent these horrific events. We must take action now, to protect our nation's most valuable resource - our children.

I can't change the past, but we can, through this legislation make sure it is more difficult for these types of events to happen. Putting a School Resource Officer who is a police officer with special training is the most important step in securing our buildings and protecting our children.

Passage of House Bill 318 will allow schools to invest and adopt proactive measures, services, and added layers of safety to protect our children.

Please support House Bill 318

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak to you today.

Respectfully,
Frank Hall
Founder, The Coach Hall Foundation