

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:

Heather Rose

Chair Coley, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to SB 317

I am a resident of Mason, Ohio, and am writing to express my outrage at you holding hearings on SB317. This bill would allow teachers to carry loaded guns in Ohio elementary, middle, and high schools without completing the safety training required by current Ohio law. Your constituents overwhelmingly want you to consider legislation that promotes responsible gun ownership such as closing the background check loopholes and extreme risk protection orders. I watched as Ohio high school and college students pleaded with you to "Do Something" after the shooting at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. And again after the Dayton shooting. Yet you choose to push SB317, a bill that undoubtedly would endanger the lives of our children. Instead of representing these children, their parents, families, and teachers, you chose to represent the extreme gun lobby.

Law enforcement and concealed carry instructors alike have testified to this body about the danger and inaccuracy of untrained shooters. You introduce emotion, prejudice, and fear into the equation when you strip training requirements. These times do not call for such reckless agendas. These times call for careful and thoughtful consideration of facts and statistics. The facts and statistics point to the need to address this public health crisis with laws that protect law abiding gun ownership while preventing dangerous people from accessing weapons.

In the sponsor hearing on SB 317, Sen. Hoagland, a member of this committee, asked a very pertinent question: "By whose authority and/or best judgment does a school board have to select an individual that is willing to volunteer to kill their own kids?" I hope you will consider his question seriously, and vote no on SB 317.

Sincerely,

Heather Rose

5478 Old Farm Drive

Mason, Ohio 45040