

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Sondra Fischer

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'm a teacher. Guns do not belong in schools. There are risks and consequences to bringing guns onto the school grounds. The liability of the school becomes a major issue in cases in which the guns are not properly handled. The majority of parents, teenagers, and teachers oppose the arming of teachers. It is only the gun lobby and their ability to corrupt honorable officials with money that this is an issue on the table. Giffords.org details every incident of teacher/adult/student mishandling of firearms in schools. It is pages and pages of mishaps and potential lawsuits with career destroying repercussions.

The bottom line is this; The gun lobby is pushing dangerous legislation in Ohio that would drastically reduce safety training requirements for teachers who carry loaded handguns inside elementary, middle and high schools. Lawmakers should put the safety of their constituents first and reject SB 317. Thank you.

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