

Testimony on Senate Bill 317  
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:  
Susan Korte

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 an Ohio resident and mother of two. Obviously I am disappointed, once again, to see the Ohio Republican party attempting to make our citizens less safe by increasing the number of guns and gun-carrying people in our state. But SB 317, which will literally target school children, is especially sickening.

SB 317 proposes reducing safety training requirements for teachers willing to carry guns in their classrooms, which will increase the likelihood of accidental shootings as well as the liability school districts will face. Does this bill include funding to offset the increased insurance premiums it will cause? Or is it just another way to placate your gun lobby friends?

My own children are years away from the Canton City school district and the terrible outcomes possible from this bill, thank God, but I know many current and former teachers and education specialists, and not one of them has ever entertained the idea of shooting a student. So the collateral damage resulting from the passage of this bill is not just the students caught in a crossfire of multiple shooters, but the teachers responsible for their injuries and/or deaths.

For the sake of decency, vote against SB 317 and protect Ohio's children.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
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