

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Lynn Mickey

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.

As an Ohio resident, voter and a school employee, I am testifying against SB 317. This bill would make our schools more dangerous. Mixing guns with kids and an untrained adult is asking for horrible accidents — more gun violence. National and local organizations (NEA, AFT, and others) are opposed to bills like this one. I have really tried to understand the reasoning behind this bill, but cannot think of even one reason for it. I am stymied, angered and worried about the safety of our children.

And as a taxpayer, I wonder how the schools will pay for the extra insurance. They are already trying to find ways to pay for all the extra safety precautions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This bill will most likely cost them extra in liability insurance.

Reducing safety training requirements for teachers who carry loaded guns into our schools is dangerous, plain and simple. I urge you, as committee chairman and bill sponsor, to discontinue hearings on and vote against SB 317.

Thank you for listening.

Lynn Mickey