

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Robin Osborne

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. My Name is Robin Osborne and I am a resident of Dublin, Ohio.

Acts of gun violence have taken the lives of America's children for far too long. No family, teacher, administrator or community ever recovers from these horrible acts violence. We have far too many devastated communities in America.

A school should be one of the safest places for a child. Unfortunately, schools have become nightmares as terrified children have to participate in lockdown drills in case they are faced with an active shooter. Now our school children will possibly face a new risk; armed, untrained teachers. Arming teachers would not only make our children's classrooms less safe, but also it is not what our educators want.

Arming school employees and reducing their training requirements ignores the risks and consequences of bringing more guns onto school grounds. Introducing more guns in schools increases the risk of gun violence. Already, there have been numerous incidents where a gun has been discharged by staff on school grounds. There have also been incidents where guns carried into schools were misplaced or stolen and later found in the hands of students.

There is no amount of training that makes it safe for teachers to carry guns in schools. SB 317 would worsen an already-dangerous situation by gutting the training Ohio law currently requires and allowing teachers to carry guns in schools without extensive safety training. Please oppose SB 317.

Robin Osborne