

Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Chairman Sen. William Coley and Committee Members,

This is testimony opposing SB 317

The opinions of educators throughout the state of Ohio could not have been considered when deciding to put this bill forward as the majority of educators do not want guns in their schools let alone carry one themselves. The potential harm to students (unintentional injury from improperly secured guns or guns left behind in restrooms, desks, etc.) outweighs the benefits.

I believe you are being tone-deaf to what is occurring in our communities today. Black and brown students are already discriminated against more than white students. They will be disproportionately negatively impacted by guns in schools because of implicit bias.

Teachers have enough stress in normal times let alone the added burden of dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic. Throwing guns in schools into the mix just might be the final straw that causes them to walk away as one can tolerate just so much.

Vote NO on SB 317

Jill Bowman

7-20-20