

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Mary Lofty

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 a resident of Glendale, Ohio. SB 317 would allow teachers to carry loaded guns in Ohio schools without completing the safety training required by current Ohio law. Under current law, all armed school employees must either complete an approved basic peace officer training course, or have completed 20 years of active duty as a peace officer. SB 317 would exempt teachers from this requirement, and allow school districts to employ armed personnel in schools with as little as 8 hours of concealed carry training or with no training at all, if firearms are not concealed when carried. There is no amount of training that makes it safe for teachers to carry guns in schools.

We need counselors and smaller class sizes, not guns carried by untrained staff!
Please vote no on SB 317.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lofty