

Testimony on Senate Bill 317 Government
Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Sarah Krieg

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 Sarah Krieg, and I am an Ohio resident and a voter and a mom. I want to express my strong opposition to SB 317. This bill would enable educators to carry loaded guns in schools without completing the necessary training currently required by Ohio law. Under the exemption created by SB 317, school districts could employ armed personnel with as little as 8 hours of training - 6 of which could be completed online - or with no training at all, if the firearm is not concealed when carried.

A brief Google search is all it takes to discover that the potential for danger and accidents grows exponentially when more guns are introduced into a school environment. If educators are not properly trained, the outcome could be disastrous.

I recently sent my daughter off to kindergarten. I am already worried enough about her contracting Covid-19 at school. So you can imagine that I would feel even more worried, and angry, if teachers in her school were armed with little to no training. Parents, families, and educators have enough to worry about right now. We do not need or want more guns on school campuses. Facts and statistics show that their presence does not actually make anyone safer.

Please vote against SB 317. Thank you for your time.

Sarah
Krieg