

Testimony on Senate Bill 317
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:
Nancy Walker Gerbetz

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 Nancy Walker Gerbetz. I am a registered voter and live in Silver Lake Ohio., I worked as a Licensed Independent Social Worker, receiving my BSSW from Ohio State University and my Masters from Case Western Reserve University. I worked as a social worker for 47 years. I counseled students and their families in schools in Columbus, Cleveland and the Akron area. Middle schools and high schools can be highly chaotic, and no personnel should be permitted to have a weapon in the school. Arming a teacher creates a highly volatile and potentially dangerous situation for students and staff.

Eliminating gun safety training for school personnel endangers everyone in the school building. I have a witnessed irate and extremely aggressive behavior by both parents and students. Allowing a teacher to have a firearm could escalate an already unstable situation.

It is imperative that guns be kept out of school to protect all children.

Sincerely,
Nancy Walker Gerbetz