

8/30/20

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a life-long resident of the state of Ohio and am writing this letter to oppose Senate Bill 317.

Both of my parents were educators here in Ohio for many years. My father was also an antique gun collector and I grew up in a home with guns. I know how to shoot a gun and the responsibility therein.

With that being said, I strongly believe no teacher should be armed with a gun in a school no matter how much training they have received. Teachers are human beings and can have mental health issues just like anyone else. They are under a lot of stress already, not to mention during these uncertain times with increasing racial issues and a pandemic. I truly believe that only law enforcement officers should have a legal right to be armed in a school. After all, it is their job duty to protect citizens.

There are too many situations where a student can become unruly and a teacher may snap and shoot a student saying it was in self-defense. In my opinion, it is more likely a child will be killed by a teacher accidentally than an intruder entering the school.

There are other safety measures that can be used to protect our children. If my parents were alive today, I know they would agree that no teacher should be armed with a gun at school and if they are, they must have the same training as a police officer. Our children deserve, at least, that much.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lorena J. Rankin
Springboro, Ohio