

Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Opposition Testimony for SB 317

Barb McCarren

Dear Sen. Coley and Committee Members,

I am completely against arming teachers in the classrooms. As a former teacher, I can't think of anything more disruptive to well-being of the teaching environment than having teachers armed. One safety concern is the mental stability of the teacher carrying a weapon. If a student a student is disruptive to the class, will the teacher take it upon himself or herself to mete out his or her own form of discipline? I can see this as another area where racial tension can evolve into a huge problem. This is not the place for "martial law", it should be an environment of learning. Another concern would be that some students overpower the teacher and now have an available weapon to use against the teacher and other students. There is a reason why police officers carry guns; they are trained to handle situations where someone might try to take a weapon away.

Keep guns out of the classrooms!

A concerned citizen,

Barbara McCarren