

Testimony on Senate Bill 317  
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:  
Linda Overholt

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 Butler County, OH . I am vehemently opposed to SB317, on several levels.

First and foremost, I believe that arming teachers is counterproductive. It introduces more dangerous weapons in schools, weapons that could accidentally be found in the hands of students.

Teachers, for the most part, are opposed to having access to weapons, preferring to focus all their attention on teaching children.

This bill allows for teachers to arm themselves with a very minimum of training, furthering the danger of having guns in schools. Anyone carrying a gun in a school should have the same amount of training required by peace officers in Ohio.

There are so many areas needing our state legislators' attention at this time, particularly in the area of public education. Legislators should be focused on improvements in funding public education and making the schools safer from the spread of the current Covid 19 virus. This bill serves as a distraction from what is REALLY important in terms of public education.

As the grandmother of two young girls, I pray daily for their safety as they pursue their education and fear that this bill increases the danger to them.

Linda Overholt