

Testimony on Senate Bill 317  
Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by:  
Morgan Cook

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 Morgan Cook. I am a registered voter in Franklin County. I am asking you to vote against SB317.

Teachers and school safety experts oppose allowing guns in schools. The American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association, the nation's two largest teachers' organizations, oppose allowing guns in schools. On a personal note, my friends + family members who are teachers or work in the school district are terrified of being asked to participate in guns on school campuses in any way. Their jobs are challenging enough outside of adding this type of fear into their classrooms.

SB317 ignores the fact that focusing on arming school employees increases the risks and consequences of bringing more guns onto school grounds.

This is not the world I want my children to live in. There must be a better way of preventative measures of school safety that do not include deadly weapons. I urge you to vote against SB317.

Morgan Cook