

House Criminal Justice Committee  
Opposition Testimony HB 99  
4/12/2021  
Submitted by Ken Krummrich

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to address this committee.

I am a lifelong Republican, father of 2, business executive (retired from Timken Corporation) and 23 year resident of Ohio. I live in the rural/suburban area of Jackson Township. I strongly oppose HB 99. If I had made decisions this bad when I was in business, I would not have had my job long, I can tell you that.

Our children are our most valuable resource! As a bereaved father, I know what it is to lose a child. It hurts for a lifetime. If you surround our children with loaded weapons, in the hands of minimally trained adults, we will lose children. Period. If having more loaded guns in workplaces made people safer, you would see major corporations (like Timken), hospitals, the Ohio State House, etc., encouraging employees and visitors to all carry loaded guns within their buildings. After all, they survive as businesses by making evidence based decisions. Yet you generally do not! Why? Because they know it's more likely to cause deaths than save lives. If you surround our children with loaded weapons, in the hands of minimally trained adults, we will lose children. Period.

During an incident at a school, you want trained individuals responding who are capable of handling themselves in a critical situation. Teachers, coaches and custodians are people too, each with their own stressors and biases in life. Expecting them to make fair, accurate and safe split second decisions about when to shoot someone is about as dumb as trusting that they will actually be able to hit their target (possibly one of their own students) in the stress of the moment. It is only going to result in more dead students. On top of that, HB 99 would allow teachers do this without adequate training. Every family in Ohio, regardless of what school district they live in, should be able to trust that IF there are going to be armed personnel in schools, they should be fully trained peace officers, not a teacher or some other adult from the community with only 8 hours of training, most of which is online.

I have supported my school system through countless volunteer activities and also paid the taxes that you no doubt supported as a legislator. You are on the record as a strong supporter of education funding. A large portion of my money and activities were intended as support for **qualified** teachers. Yet, HB 99 does the exact opposite by allowing **poorly trained** individuals to act as policemen in our schools.

I expect you to make a rational decision and vote NO on HB 99.

Respectfully,  
Ken Krummrich