

The Cincinnati Branch NAACP believes that arming teachers in the classroom is an ill conceived idea and is a solution looking for a problem. It can actually make schools less safe. A student can gain access to the weapon, and this legislation doesn't require teachers to have the adequate hours of training like all peace officers receive. An under trained teacher could lead to the accidental injury to students or themselves. School's should be safe zones for students to learn and parents shouldn't have to worry about their child gaining access to a weapon that hasn't been properly stored. Teachers need to teach and not be saddled with additional concerns about whether or not their weapon is secured safely. What is needed is common sense gun reform laws, universal background checks and red flag laws for those who are high risk. There is already a tremendous amount of gun violence and trauma that children are exposed to, they don't need to start seeing teachers carrying weapons. We are strongly opposed to HB99 and request that the committee take no further action with attempts to advance this bad legislation. Thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns.