

Amy Gerowitz - HB 99 Testimony

Chairman LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Lelend and other members of the House Criminal Justice Committee. My name is Amy Gerowitz. I live in Cincinnati and I am retired. My work life included many situations with front line workers, teachers, care givers, nurses etc. I organized programs for training and coordinated facilities for people with developmental disabilities. Early in my career I was a classroom teacher.

i am so concerned that HB99 would allow teachers to carry loaded guns in Ohio elementary, middle and high schools without completing safety training currently required in Ohio law.

I wonder why anyone would think that is a good idea. How can 8 hours of training possibly provide educators and other school personnel with adequate information about how and when to use a loaded gun? In my experience in front line situations such as classrooms, care facilities and the like situations can escalate quickly. Is an untrained teacher with a loaded gun the answer? I think not. Law enforcement officers receive an average of 840 hours of basic training, including 168 hours of training on weapons and self-defense and the use of force. Why should educators be required to have less training?

Please don't allow the gun lobby to introduce risk into schools. If an armed shooter comes into a school how can a teacher protect herself or himself and the children while also firing a weapon that he or she doesn't know how to use. Please don't pass this law.