

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Opposition testimony: HB 99

David Madaffer

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to House Bill 99.

I am an Ohio resident and voter. I strongly oppose HB 99.

The latest Sub Bill HB 99 still sets an alarmingly low standard of 28 hrs (with a few hours of annual follow-up) for training individuals who would be “authorized” to be armed in schools. Introducing more guns into our schools increases the risk of gun violence for both children and teachers. The NRA and the rest of the gun industry have promoted the idea that we need more guns in public places so they sell more guns. Americans already own about half of the world’s guns although we are only 4% of the world’s population (Rueters). Yet our death rate from gun violence is far higher than any of the other developed nations and growing every year. The last thing we need is more guns around our children, especially in the hands of adults with just a few hours of training. Please put the safety of your constituents first, ahead of the wishes of the gun lobby. Reject HB 99.

Respectfully,

David Madaffer