

Senate Veterans and Public Safety
Opponent Testimony on House Bill 99

Submitted by:
Marc Cody

To the Chairman and Committee,

I strongly oppose HB 99. History and research show us that arming teachers puts students at greater risk and does nothing to stop active shooter situations or other forms of school gun violence.¹ Supporters of this bill have not offered a single piece of evidence or statistic showing the advisability of arming teachers or school staff, let alone allowing them to be armed without adequate levels of training.

Current Ohio law requires any armed school personnel to have more than 750 hours of “Peace Officer” training. At least under this law parents, grandparents and teachers know that anyone handling a gun in the school is thoroughly trained in managing a crisis, handling/storing a gun, and, as a last resort, firing the weapon. Reducing this training to just 28 hours will result in tragic accidents and consequences. When Mike Dewine was Attorney General, he stated that the minimum amount of training for people to be armed in schools should be 153 hours.

Ohioans want common sense gun laws. You need to think through the consequences of this bill. Address the real problem: easy access to guns in Ohio and stop trying to arm people with woefully inadequate training to carry guns in close proximity to our children. Reject OH 99.

Respectfully,
Marc cody
