

Testimony on House Bill 248
Federalism Committee

Submitted by:
Joanie Calem

Chair Becker, Vice Chair Stoltzfus, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to HB 248.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Joanie Calem and I am a Ohio citizen and voter. I am also an educator with years of experience working in school settings. I am extremely concerned about HB248 and the attempt to allow (and encourage) conceal carry for teachers with less training in handling firearms than is currently the minimum requirement for Ohioans. Guns on school premises is never something that should be encouraged. People with experience in de-escalation can be helpful in school situations, not teachers who are supposed to be protecting students. In addition to encouraging teachers to be conceal carrying, this bill also loosens existing Ohio laws to allow more people to carry deadly weapons in school safety zones while reducing penalties for concealed carry violations in these school safety zones. The idea of a school safety zone is to be a place of safety. Adding more guns into the mix makes students and educators less safe, not more safe. HB248 also attempts to lower the legal age of purchase of a firearm from 21 to 18. We all know that there is a good reason that the age of legal alcohol purchase in Ohio is 21. Allowing 18 year old's to buy guns will create further chaos in Ohio schools and campuses. Child development experts know that many 18 year old's still do not have a well-developed sense of impulse control and anger management, and allowing them to purchase weapons will only lead to more killing and suicides. Please do not pass HB 248 as it stands.

Sincerely,

Joanie Calem

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: November 17, 2020

Name: Joanie Calem

Are you representing: Yourself Organization _____

Organization (If Applicable):

Position/Title:

Address: 4890 Sharon Ave

City: Columbus State: Ohio Zip:43214

Best Contact Telephone: Email: joaniecalem@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 248

Specific Issue:

Are you testifying as a: Proponent _____ Opponent Interested Party _____

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require?

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I oppose House Bill 248.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.