

Criminal Justice Committee
Opposition Testimony HB 99
Submitted by: Jennifer Bachus

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and
Committee Members,
Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony.

I am a small business owner, wife, mother and voter in Jackson Township,
Stark County, Ohio. I strongly oppose HB 99 because it will make our
schools and our children less safe and negatively impact my small business.

As a first time business owner, I feel HB 99 would be bad for my small
business. Many of my customers buy their homes here because of our
schools. If this district becomes less safe, people will look for other areas
in which to buy and my customer base will shrink.

HB 99 makes our children less safe. It reduces the amount of training that
an armed person in schools must have, from the current 700 hours to just
28 hours (much of which can be done online). I do not want my child in a
classroom or building with people who are not trained Police Officers
carrying loaded guns. This is frightening!

I guess people who support this bill will point out that it allows school
districts to require additional training, beyond the basic 28 hours (much of
which can be done online). However, since School Boards must pay for all
of the training of these "authorized persons", many School Boards will
choose the cheapest, easiest way to arm persons in schools. They will go
with the lowest standard for training set by state law. Sub Bill HB 99 will
give them cover when parents question them. They can just respond, "Our
policy meets state standards". The result will be more loaded guns in close
proximity to our children and our teachers.

Please vote NO on HB 99 or any substitute bill this Thursday.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Bachus

