

**Criminal Justice Committee**  
**Opposition Testimony on HB 99**  
**John Dannug**

To the Chairman and Committee Members, thank you for allowing me to testify on this important legislation. My name is John Dannug. My wife is a teacher at Jackson Middle School in Massillon, Oh. I strongly oppose HB 99 and Sub Bill 99.

In 2018, my wife experienced an attempted school shooting that ended with the shooter taking his own life in the school bathroom. Her classroom was just 2 doors down from that bathroom. She feels strongly that having teachers or other "authorized" civilians carrying guns in the school, especially with fewer than 30 hours of training and a few hours annual follow-up training, would have made no difference in this situation. I think you should listen to the teachers who have actually lived through these crises. Teachers are not going to want to shoot students. Community volunteers or some other adult will likely be unpredictable in their response to such a crises, especially when they have not been thoroughly trained. They will just make the situation worse. According to a Mega study by the Rand Corp., there is no evidence that having armed personnel in schools prevents school shootings.[1] Such policing is best left to "Peace Officers" with the 730 hrs of training required by current law. I do not want my wife to spend her day near someone who is carrying a gun. When guns are nearby, accidents happen. I fear for my wife's safety if this bill goes into effect.

I am also concerned that children of color, teen-aged boys, and children with learning disorders or hearing loss, who have trouble following directions, will all be more likely to be perceived as a threat. If a gun is at hand, an armed adult may make a deadly mistake. To deter school shootings, the safest place for guns is far away from school. Please vote NO on HB 99 and keep my wife and her students safe.

Sincerely,  
John Dannug

1. “The Science of Gun Policy: A Critical Synthesis of Research Evidence on the Effects of Gun Policies in the United States [Second Edition],” is available at [www.rand.org](http://www.rand.org).