

**Testimony on House Bill 99  
Criminal Justice Committee**

Submitted by:  
Penny Hubbard

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. My name is Penny Hubbard. I am a resident of Clinton, Ohio which is a rural neighborhood. I am the proud mother of 3 daughters who attended Jackson Local Schools. Two of them are now teachers and one is a school psychologist. They all work in N. E. Ohio. I volunteer in my daughter's classroom. My husband is a volleyball coach at Jackson Middle School. We have spent much of our lives in these school buildings. If anyone has a right to speak up on the dangers associated with this bill, I do!

I am opposed to HB 99, which would allow teachers to carry loaded guns into schools without proper training and procedure. I am struggling to understand how this is considered a good idea. None of my family members are in favor of carrying a loaded gun into school, with or without proper training. They do not want to be in close proximity to other staff who may be carrying guns, *especially* if they have had only a bare minimum of training. Accidents are certainly going to happen and I fear for my family. Also, we would all be traumatized if one of their students were shot by a teacher or a child who got hold of a teacher's gun. Law enforcement requires extensive weapons training and certification. Under Sub Bill HB 99, the "authorized person" carrying guns in schools can still be a teacher, coach or other staff member. Teachers are trained to teach. They are not trained in law enforcement. Parents would not be able to find out whether teachers are carrying loaded weapons because the bill only requires schools to give the community a general statement that " the board or governing body has authorized one or more persons to go armed within a school."

The purpose of HB 99 is not to save children's lives. It was written as an attempt to overrule a court decision. The bill even states "that the purpose of the provisions is to expressly overrule the decision of the Ohio Supreme Court in Gabbard v. Madison Local School Dist. Bd. of Edn because the Ohio Supreme Court ruled against the School Board for arming teachers or other personnel in their school without adequate training and without being transparent about it.

Please put a stop to this dangerous bill.

Respectfully submitted,  
Penny Hubbard  
Clinton, OH