

House Criminal Justice Committee  
Opposition Testimony HB 99  
Submitted by Ken Krummrich

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to address this committee.

I am a lifelong Republican, father of 2, business executive (retired from Timken Corporation) and 23 year resident of Ohio. I live in the rural/suburban area of Jackson Township. I strongly oppose HB 99 and Sub Bill 99.

Changing the training requirements to less than 30 hours, as done in Sub Bill 99 is still a VERY long way from the current requirement of 700+ hours. It is also telling that the training program described in Sub Bill 99 is practically identical to the "FASTER" program provided by Buckeye Firearms, an Ohio gun lobbyist group. That shows us who you are listening to...Parents? No. The Gun Lobby? I'll let you answer that. Ohio voters are not stupid nor blind.

During an incident at a school, you want trained individuals responding who are capable of handling themselves in a critical situation. Community volunteers, veterans, teachers, coaches and even retired Police are people too, each with their own stressors and biases in life. Expecting them to make fair, accurate and safe split second decisions about when to shoot someone is about as dumb as trusting that they will actually be able to hit their target (possibly one of their own students) in the stress of the moment. It is only going to result in more dead students. On top of that, HB 99 would allow teachers do this without adequate training. Every family in Ohio, regardless of what school district they live in, should be able to trust that IF there are going to be armed personnel in schools, they should be fully trained peace officers, not a teacher or some other adult from the community with less than 30 hours of training, with only a few hours of live firing time.

Our children are our most valuable resource! As a bereaved father, I know what it is to lose a child. It hurts for a lifetime. If you surround our children with loaded weapons, in the hands of minimally trained adults, we will lose children. Period. If having more loaded guns in workplaces made people safer, you would see major corporations (like Timken), hospitals, the Ohio State House, etc., encouraging

employees and visitors to all carry loaded guns within their buildings. After all, they survive as businesses by making evidence based decisions. Yet you generally do not! Why? Because they know it's more likely to cause deaths than save lives. If you surround our children with loaded weapons, in the hands of minimally trained adults, we will lose children. Period.

I have supported my school system through countless volunteer activities and also paid the taxes that you no doubt supported as a legislator. You are on the record as a strong supporter of education funding. A large portion of my money and activities were intended as support for **qualified** teachers and staff in schools. Yet, HB 99 does the exact opposite by allowing **inadequately trained individuals** to act as policemen in our schools.

I expect you to make a rational decision and vote NO on HB 99.

Respectfully,  
Ken Krummrich