

Criminal Justice Committee

Opposition Testimony on HB 99

Nancy Pierson

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and members of the committee,

Thank you for this chance to testify on HB 99.

I am a long time resident of Jackson Township in Stark County, Ohio, a suburban area that includes some farmland as well. I am the mother of a son who graduated from Jackson Local Schools, active in my church and proud grandmother of a child with special needs who lives in Columbus, OH.

I do not think that HB 99 should pass as this sounds extremely dangerous. Teachers or any other civilians should not have a gun in the class room with only 28 to 30 hours of training, even if "authorized" by a School Board. This could prove to be dangerous if the students were to get a hold of the gun. If a district decides to have an armed policeman in the school, it should be a "Peace Officer" with extensive training, as current law states. This sounds like a terrible accident waiting to happen.

It is clear that you are ignoring Ohio parents on this issue and only listening to the gun lobby. The fact that the training program you describe in Sub Bill 99 is essentially the same as Buckeye Firearms "Faster" program shows who is in control. Ohio citizens have been calling for Universal Background Checks and Red Flag laws for at least 2 years and you have done nothing. But NRA lobbyists came from out of state last week (including from Arizona!!???) to testify on Permitless Carry and the House jumped to do their bidding. **Please serve us, Ohio Parents, Teachers and Children as you swore an oath to do.**

Vote NO on HB 99.

Thank you for your attention,  
Nancy Pierson