

My name is Dinero Ciardelli, I am a retired Marine with multiple, combat deployments to various countries.

I am for HB99 and believe that this pass is due and well needed.

I believe that this bill will now make the state take ownership in School Safety. This bill is a critical program to improve School Safety in the state of Ohio for all of the students, teachers, staff and administrators.

Right now within the state of Ohio, the only drills at schools for lockdown and evacuation are three drills every school year. In my opinion first off, that is not enough. We practice fire drills every single month; we have not had a kid die in a school fire since 1956. My question that I would like to ask you is when was the last time a kid died in a school attack? I believe that we should be running these types of drills every single month.

The other thing that I would like to address is training. We have very little training that is actually conducted for the teachers in the school districts in the state of Ohio. There are many different organizations that are out there that are teaching staff members and students how to deal with a potential threat and this is not standardized. In my eyes, what I have seen, there is no consistency across the board with training on these educators. I believe by the state standardizing training it will allow any teacher or staff member to move throughout the state of Ohio to a different school district and, not have to be retrained on that School districts SOP's for an active shooter or lockdown. I do understand that every building is different but, I do believe that the state needs to standardize the training off of the Department of Homeland Security run hide fight. I believe this training can be as simple as what educators already have to do on their classes at the beginning of each year online I believe that they could do an online active shooter training and that the state will then be able to regulate and know what school district actually completed their active shooter training.

Tactical safety training is needed as we do have schools that do not have a resource officers. We also have schools that the resource officers that are there may not be the best candidate to be in the school. This is our future generation we actually need to look at who we have there to protect them. I have been throughout a lot of schools in the state of Ohio and what I have found is, some of the best officers that are there as a resource officers and then some not that good. I don't want to criticize our law-enforcement within the state of Ohio, as I am a very big believer in our first responders. I am a military guy training is key; you must train because that's the way that you are going to react when a situation occurs. Some of the resource officers that I have found in the state are on their way out the door to retirement or have been discipline within the office of which they work out of and they are put there as a punishment, I do not believe that this is correct. The other things that I see within our resource officers are the trainings that they go through. I do believe they need to know how to deal with kids in the resource officer training that they have to go through every year for 40 hours up at the state is good but one of the things that I believe needs to improve is the qualifications of carrying a firearm

in a school that doesn't only go for the Resource Officers but, it's also goes for the schools that are arming teachers and staff. Some of these resource officers only shoot 25 rounds a year for the qualification and some of these teachers and staff members that are armed with firearms go through a weekend or two weekends of training at some kind of shooting Academy. Just because they have their concealed carry and the school board approves them to carry in the school, we have armed teachers in the school. One thing that I see that is, a problem is how do we identify a threat everybody is trained to identify a threat by looking at the hands if a teacher is armed and a school in a teacher is trying to neutralize the threat of a student shooting in the cafeteria and then a first responder shows up that law-enforcement officer is looking for an individual with a gun they identify a threat by seeing a gun in the hands. I would ask the state of Ohio, what is the protocol on arming teachers and having that open relationship and cross training with the law enforcement officers in the area.

One of the other things I would like to bring to your attention is the safety aspect of a school superintendent or safety coordinators for schools. These people are really our educator they were teachers once that moved up through the ranks and they became principals and now they're in the administration office. How do we expect our superintendents the safety coordinators, which is usually a collateral duty on top of other duties that they have to make the best calls for safety and security in our schools? I think by having the school Marshall's bill in place it's going to make the superintendents life and everybody else's a lot easier because superintendents are now focused on what their job is really at hand to run the school and make sure that our kids are getting educated. This is also going to help them if they have any questions that the School Marshall will be the main point of contact within the state of Ohio.

One of the other things that I found out throughout the state of Ohio is a way that schools communicate, account and reunify students with their loved ones. If we ever have an emergency an active shooter, one of the biggest issues is how do we account for students, how do we communicate? I saw these gaps years ago throughout the state. In the military, our number one weapon is a radio; if you can't communicate you are a sitting duck. This is the same and this is what I believe within the school system we need to empower our teachers to communicate, account and reunify students and make a decision on what they need to do depending on each situation. I strongly agree with HB99 and believe that we need to pass this bill to keep our future generation safe while at school.

I would like to thank the committee member's time and wish everyone the best in making this discussion. Thank you.