Testimony on Senate Bill 317 Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by: Sarah lammarino

Chair Coley, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to SB 317.

Arming teachers is dangerous, especially if they have no training. SB 317 would allow teachers to carry loaded guns in Ohio schools without completing the safety training required by current Ohio law. Under current law, all armed school employees must either complete an approved basic peace officer training course, or have completed 20 years of active duty as a peace officer. SB 317 would exempt teachers from this requirement, and allow school districts to employ armed personnel in schools with as little as 8 hours of concealed carry training or with no training at all, if firearms are not concealed when carried. There is no amount of training that makes it safe for teachers to carry guns in schools. SB 317 would worsen an already-dangerous situation by gutting the training Ohio law currently requires and allowing teachers to carry guns in schools without extensive safety training.

Please vote no on SB 317.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah lammarino