Testimony on Senate Bill 317 Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Submitted by: Mary Basch

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.

Gun violence in OH and the US is increasing and too many people are being negatively impacted by gun violence. There are laws we can enact to decrease gun violence and SB317 is not one. Arming teachers is a terrible idea and not requiring proper training makes a terrible idea worse. Our schools are already in a state of chaos because of the pandemic, please do not add to the chaos by enacting SB317.

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.

I am an Ohio constituent (from Solon, Ohio) and would like you to vote against SB317.

Sincerely, Mary Basch