Testimony on House Bill 99 Criminal Justice Committee

Submitted by: Penny Hubbard April 10, 2021

Chair LaRe, Vice Chair Swearingen, Ranking Member Leland, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to present this testimony in opposition to House Bill 99. My name is Penny Hubbard. I am a resident of Clinton, Ohio which is a rural neighborhood. I am the proud mother of 3 daughters who attended Jackson Local Schools. Two of them are now teachers and one is a school psychologist. They all work in N. E. Ohio. I volunteer in my daughter's classroom. My husband is a volleyball coach at Jackson Middle School. We have spent much of our lives in these school buildings. If anyone has a right to speak up on the dangers associated with this bill, I do!

I am opposed to HB 99, which would allow teachers to carry loaded guns into schools without proper training and procedure. I am struggling to understand how this is considered a good idea. None of my family members are in favor of carrying a loaded gun into school, with or without proper training. They do not want to be in close proximity to other staff who may be carrying guns, *especially* if they have had only a bare minimum of training. Accidents are certainly going to happen and I fear for my family. Also, we would all be traumatized if one of their students were shot by a teacher or a child who got hold of a teacher's gun. Law enforcement requires extensive weapons training and certification. Teachers are trained to teach. They are not trained in law enforcement. Please put a stop to this dangerous bill.

Respectfully submitted, Penny Hubbard Clinton, OH