

Steven Galkin  
OPPOSE: HB302

Written testimony 2/5/2020 in opposition of HB302

I am writing this in opposition to HB302 which would ban licensed concealed carry holders from carrying a weapon on private school grounds. This is a bill like many others that would have ZERO impact on gun crime and mass shootings. Criminals are already banned from owning guns, much less carrying them onto a school campus. CCW holders have been shown to be extremely law-abiding as a whole; even more so than police officers. There has never been a mass shooting committed by a CCW holder. This bill would serve only to guarantee to criminals that schools are going to be easy and soft targets. Gun-free zones are free-kill zones.

Additionally, this will make many synagogues in the Jewish community unable to have armed congregants if they house any kind of school on the same grounds. This is unacceptable. Jews are unfortunately a targeted group. Any review of recent news will show that armed congregants will help STOP a shooter/killer, whereas when there is no armed response, killers are free to kill. Not every congregation can afford to hire armed security, and even those that can benefit when congregants are also armed. This bill must be removed from consideration. It will serve only to enable criminals, while making everyone else less safe.

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