

From: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 2/21/2018 1:22:41 PM
Subject: FW: Carrying guns in schools

Please advise

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Christy Overcash [mailto:christyovercash10@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 7:48 PM
To: Lt. Governor's Office
Subject: Carrying guns in schools

Dear sir,

I am a teacher here in South Carolina. I understand you want to arm school staff. I am telling you if that happens, I will quit teaching. Guns have NO place in a school unless they are being carried by a school resource officer. Sir, if you think arming school staff is the solution to the school shooting issue, you have no idea what goes on in a school and the type of environment that is necessary for students to learn in. Students will not feel safer knowing that their teachers may or may not be carrying a gun. I will not feel safer knowing that guns are being carried by my colleagues who are not trained law enforcement agents. Teachers don't sign up to be deputies of the law. We sign up because we love education and we love young people. We love being part of the journey students take to their next level. I've always said that the Army got it wrong-teaching truly is the toughest job you'll ever love. We work hard to establish a safe and loving environment that is conducive to learning. Introducing guns into the equation will negate that type of atmosphere. If you want to help teachers and students, hire extra school staff-extra administrators, teachers, teachers' aides, and counselors. Place a school psychologist at every school. Close all the loopholes that make it incredibly easy for anyone in this state to acquire a gun. Outlaw bump stocks and assault rifles. My father, a lifelong gun enthusiast and hunter has often said, "Why in the world does anyone need an AR? It's not likely you're going to come upon a huge herd of deer." Please do not make schools the new wild west. Please invest your energy and my tax dollars in other ways besides putting guns into schools. Have you ever wondered what would happen if a teenager got hold of one of those guns? And if you think they are not curious and smart enough to figure out who is carrying and how to access the weapon, you don't know teenagers. Please, please, please, I am begging you to find other ways to help support us, because guns are not it.

Sincerely;
Christy Overcash