



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2022
FASTERSavesLives.org

CONTACT

Jim Irvine - Foundation President 440-503-3011
Joe Eaton – Program Director 513-267-6088

H.B. 99 Headed to Governor Dewine Increased safety in Ohio's Schools before end of summer

Columbus, Ohio – H.B. 99 (Rep Thomas Hall (R-Middletown)) introduced this bill after an Ohio Supreme Court (OSC) ruling required police academy training before any school staff could be authorized to carry a firearm as part of a districts enhanced security measures. The OSC ruling did not require this additional training for persons not employed by the school who were authorized to carry firearms.

HB99 passed out of the Ohio House in November 2021 and quickly moved to the Senate Veterans and Public Safety committee where it sat until this week. On Tuesday the committee accepted and passed Sub HB99. Yesterday the sub bill was passed by the entire Ohio Senate and the Ohio House quickly concurred. The act now heads to the Governor for his signature before it can become law.

Once signed by Governor Dewine, H.B. 99 will give Ohio school district the option to increase school safety and security by allowing them to train and authorize select schools staff and others to carry firearms as part of a comprehensive safety plan. The bill creates the Ohio School Safety and Crisis Center under the Department of Public Safety and will provide local support and training opportunities in the 16 Ohio school regions via Mobile Training Teams.

H.B. 99 specifies that prior to a school district authorizing a person to carry a firearm in a school, the person must receive an initial amount of training on topics including (a) Mitigation techniques; (b) Communications capabilities and coordination collaboration techniques; (c) Neutralization of potential threats and active shooters; (d) Accountability; (e) Reunification; (f) Psychology of critical incidents; (g) De-escalation techniques; (h) Crisis intervention; (i) Trauma and first aid care; (j) The history and pattern of school shootings; (k) Tactics of responding to critical incidents in schools; (l) At least four hours of training in scenario-based or simulated training exercises; (m) Completion of tactical live firearms training; (n) Realistic building training.

HB99 also specifies a minimum of 8 hours of recurring training in subsequent years to continue to be authorized to carry in the school.

The recent killings in Texas showed what many schools had known for decades, waiting on outside help to stop violent killers in a school is not a solution. Schools have to prepare multiple overlapping layers of protection for their staff and student from violence and many other factors. Having trained, trusted and willing volunteers immediately available to stop the killing and start the medical aid will continue to save lives.