

Matt Carnagie

From: Katie O'Sullivan See <katieosullivansee@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 12:12 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: HB4200

Dear Members of the House Military, Veterans and Homeland Security Committee,

I write in opposition to HB4200 and request that this letter be placed in the record of the Committee hearings on the bill. I am a resident of Williamston Township, a retired faculty member of Michigan State University, and currently the State Educators lead for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, a voluntary organization. As a lifelong educator, I am especially concerned about the impact of people carrying hidden loaded handguns in sensitive areas like schools and college buildings, areas that have been deemed to be "prohibited areas" for a strong reason.

In Michigan, where over 90 children and teens are shot and killed every year by firearms, the impact of gun violence has been powerful. Nationwide, firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens and the first leading cause of death for Black children and teens. Moreover, campus life is rife with risk factors that make the presence of guns especially dangerous--heavy alcohol use, mental health issues among others. Increasingly, our young people live with a sense of great vulnerability at school and in their dorms. By reducing penalties and allowing people who break the law to keep their Concealed Pistol licenses, we

signal that there is little consequence for breaking the law. Indeed, individuals may feel that they can carry loaded firearms into prohibited areas with little consequence. This increases the sense of vulnerability among children and youth, and signals that our lawmakers have not prioritized public safety in these sensitive areas.

I urge the Committee to vote against 4200.

Sincerely,

Katherine O'Sullivan See