



March 4, 2015

Madison Metropolitan School District Statement on AB 46

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the committee today. I am here to voice our district's major concerns with AB 46.

Currently, the only people who can carry a weapon in our schools are authorized, on-duty officers who are working with our schools or students. In most cases, it is only Educational Resource Officers, who work at our high schools, are uniformed and are known to our school communities.

Allowing any former law enforcement officer or any off duty officer to carry a weapon at schools would send dangerous, mixed messages to staff, students and the local law enforcement officers who work with our schools.

All of our schools have detailed safety plans that they are prepared to follow in the event of an emergency. Our staff members know what protocol to follow and law enforcement respond when necessary. Allowing someone not in uniform and unknown to the school community to carry a weapon would create a dangerous situation for the school and for law enforcement responding. We respectfully ask that you reconsider this unnecessary and possibly dangerous bill. Thank you for your time.