

I am writing today to ask that you oppose the Eddie Eagle House Bill HB2304. Studies have shown that the Eddie Eagle program does not deter children from playing with firearms and has been deemed ineffective by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

I retired last year after working 20 years in education. I have seen what gun violence does to a school community and beyond. Children are naturally curious and will access firearms if obtainable. My children are grown, and two have chosen to settle in Kansas because of the amenities and good schools. Young parents are concerned about the safety of their children in schools to begin with, and especially with the prospect of this program being taught.

Studies have shown that the Eddie Eagle program does not prevent children from playing with firearms any more than children who do not participate in the program.

I urge you to vote no on HB2304 as a parent and former educator.

Thank you,

Melissa Reichmeier