

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee:

Date: March 17, 2023

Bill number: HB 2304

Name of Conferee: Carl Reed

**OPPOSE**

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

Regarding HB 2304, I wish to submit written testimony only. I **oppose** this bill.

This bill is objectionable because it:

1. Usurps the rightful duty of the elected officers of the Board of Education to decide such matters.
2. Corruptly favors a particular, well-connected lobbyist's program above that of other organizations.
3. Is based on old data. A large majority of our current knowledge related to the development of children's brains and their ability to control their impulses has been learned since the Eddie Eagle program was put together in the 1980's.
4. Has been shown by independent testing to be an ineffective public-safety program, as would be expected of an approach that requires a young child to act responsibly instead of requiring the adult gun-owner to do so.

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