



# PHILADELPHIA FEDERATION of TEACHERS

TO: MEMBERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE

FROM: JERRY T. JORDAN, PRESIDENT, PHILADELPHIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

RE: OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 383 (GUNS IN SCHOOLS)

JUNE 28, 2017

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*The Philadelphia Federation of Teachers is OPPOSED to Senate Bill 383, which would permit guns in schools.*

***Our opposition to SB 383 is based on the following:***

- There is no evidence that bringing guns into schools increases student safety, regardless of the amount of training given to teachers and school staff.
- There is, however, research that shows that children are far more likely to suffer self-inflicted injuries from firearms.
- Numerous studies of school climate show that the best way to make our schools safe is by providing children with adequate staff, programs and services--NOT GUNS!
- We must focus on bringing more funding and resources to public schools, not weapons.

**For these reasons, and many more, the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers is OPPOSED to Senate Bill 383 and urges Senators to vote NO.**

***For a full summary of our legislative positions, please see next page.***

**SUMMARY:**

<b>Bill/Legislative Item</b>	<b>PFT Position</b>
Governor's \$100M increase in basic education funding	<b>SUPPORT</b>
Governor's \$100M increase in special education funding	<b>SUPPORT</b>
SB 76 [Elimination of property taxes]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 166 [Paycheck deception]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 167 [Paycheck deception]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 168 [Open bargaining]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 228 [Economic furlough]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 229 [Elimination of guaranteed sick leave for educators]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 383 [Guns in schools]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
SB 555 [Fair share tax plan]	<b>SUPPORT</b>
SB 777 [Shale tax; pending introduction]	<b>SUPPORT</b>
HB 97 [Charter 'reform']	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 164 [Prohibition of union leave]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 250 [EITC expansion]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 438 [Liquor privatization]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 857 [Amends private academic schools out]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 991 [Liquor privatization]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 975 [Liquor privatization]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 1075 [Liquor privatization]	<b>OPPOSED</b>
HB 1495 [Layoffs]	<b>OPPOSED</b>

**Contact:**

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