

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE JACOB HALL SCHOOL PROTECTION ACT

WHEREAS, South Carolina House Bill 3052, the “Jacob Hall School Protection Act” (the “Act”), has been introduced in the South Carolina General Assembly;

WHEREAS, the Act, if enacted, authorizes an individual to obtain a public school concealed weapons permit whereby that person may lawfully possess a concealed weapon in public schools and on public school property;

WHEREAS, the Act, if enacted, empowers school Principals with the exclusive jurisdiction to allow school employees to obtain a public school concealed weapons permit and thereby to possess a concealed weapon in a public school;

WHEREAS, a Principal may exercise such authority without the consent or direction of a local Board of Education or his/her Superintendent;

WHEREAS, the Act, if enacted, empowers Superintendents with the exclusive jurisdiction to allow district office employees to obtain a public school concealed weapons permit and thereby to possess a concealed weapon on public school district office property;

WHEREAS, a Superintendent may exercise such authority without the consent or direction of a local Board of Education;

WHEREAS, a foundational necessity for and a hallmark of all public schools is the safety and security of the children enrolled in our public school;

WHEREAS, the Act, if enacted, has the potential to endanger the lives of students, school employees, and others present in a school building in which the concealed weapon is located; and

WHEREAS, despite good intentions, the potential for injury and the loss of life should an allowed concealed weapon be discharged on a public school campus far outweighs any benefits of allowing a concealed weapon on a public school campus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION as follows:

1. That it opposes the presence of all weapons, including concealed firearms, in its public schools unless carried by a law enforcement officer for a legitimate law enforcement purpose and in accordance with existing South Carolina law;
2. That it strongly opposes the Jacob Hall School Protection Act; and
3. That it urges the Beaufort County Legislative Delegation and the South Carolina General Assembly to oppose the Jacob Hall School Protection Act.

Done in meeting duly assemble this, the 4th day of April, 2017.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Patricia Felton-Montgomery, Chairperson
Beaufort County School District Board of Education

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant
Beaufort County School District Board of Education