

Senate of the State of Kansas  
Federal and State Affairs Committee  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

10 February 2018

Re: Strong Recommendation for rejection of HB 2042 & request to deliver oral testimony 13 February

Committee Members:

I hereby respectfully request time to deliver oral testimony on HB 2042 and very much appreciate your considering this written testimony recommending rejection of HB 2042.

We keep hearing misinformed statements referencing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment as justification for pushing guns into places where they should not be. As an historian and professional educator, I must set the record straight and make it absolutely clear: There is no 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment basis for allowing guns on campus.

Obviously, the most authoritative interpreters of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment are the individuals who wrote it. Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were its two chief architects. It's rare that we have direct, detailed, explicit, written guidance and historical records of related actions from our Founding Fathers on topics of today. Fortunately, this is the case here. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1824, James Madison and Thomas Jefferson as members of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia issued a very clear edict:

*No Student shall, within the precincts of the University, introduce, keep or use...  
weapons or arms of any kind...*

Madison and Jefferson did not assume that the ban alone would suffice, so they also ordered that students who drew lethal weapons were liable for "instant expulsion" from the university. James Madison was the primary author of the Constitution, and Thomas Jefferson was the most vigorous defender of individual liberties among the Founding Fathers. They held that prohibiting firearms on university campuses was sensible, Constitutional, and necessary for the proper functioning of the institution.

Kansas' nonsensical gun laws of today flagrantly violate the expressed will and example of our Founding Fathers. They are in lay terms: Patently Unpatriotic. HB 2042 takes this unpatriotic violation of the will of our Founding Fathers a step further in that it could place ever-greater numbers of armed youth in classrooms, large lecture halls, labs, fraternity bashes and game-day parties. Given the harm that KSA 75-7c01 et. seq. has already brought to the integrity of our educational institutions, our youth, their employability and the taxbase of Kansas, we ask you to be a patriot, reject HB 2042 and demand the immediate repeal of the gun laws which have so catastrophically damaged the formerly great universities of Kansas.

Respectfully,



Dr. Katherine Clark

University of Kansas Chapter of the American Association of University Professors Spokesperson

RMB:pdq