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## Clio Area Schools

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October 13, 2015

Senator Mike Green  
125 West Allegan Street #805  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Senator Green:

Clio Area Schools was recently a defendant involving litigation with Michigan Open Carry (MOC), et al. Clio Schools attempted to prohibit the plaintiff from access to school grounds while openly carrying a firearm (pistol). Unfortunately, the presiding judge ruled the district had no authority to enact policy limiting members of the public from openly carrying firearms (pistols) on school grounds. More recently, however, a judge in Washtenaw County, hearing a case involving Michigan Gun Owners, et al. vs Ann Arbor Public Schools, ruled exactly the opposite. The judge ruled public schools can adopt policies prohibiting the open carry of firearms (pistols) on school grounds. Clio has appealed the verdict and has requested an expedited hearing on the matter. Regardless of the outcome, however, one can reasonably assume the non-prevailing party will request leave with the Michigan Supreme Court.

The Clio Area Schools' Board of Education unanimously endorses SB 442. We believe visitors openly carrying firearms in school is an unnecessary distraction and interferes with the orderly education of our students. The right to bear arms does not specifically enumerate how those arms may be carried. Prohibiting open carry, and permitting licensed CPL holders to conceal carry, would assist schools by eliminating the distraction posed by exposed weapons, yet would permit licensed CPL holders to fully exercise their second amendment rights.

The issue at hand should be addressed by the legislature, not legislated from the bench. We encourage the committee and the legislature to move expeditiously and settle the question by adopting SB 442, thereby limiting unnecessary disruptions in Michigan public the schools, recognizing the constitutional rights of all citizens, and reducing litigation costs to all involved.

Thank you for taking the time to meet with our representatives today.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Dipzinski, President  
Clio Area Schools' Board of Education

Fletcher Spears III, Superintendent  
Clio Area Schools