

Dear Chairman Thompson and Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

My name is Lene Brooke. I am a parent, a grandparent, and a lifelong Kansan.

I oppose SB 116, a bill to require children in public schools to go through the National Rifle Association's "Eddie Eagle" program.

The Eddie Eagle program has been deemed ineffective by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other studies. This program focuses on the wrong things. It places the responsibility of gun safety on children rather than on their parents and guardians. Children are curious. It is our place as adults to make sure that curious children and vulnerable teens cannot get a hold of firearms.

If lawmakers want to support gun safety education they should look to programs which teach parents and adults the importance of securely storing firearms away from children. Or better yet, pass legislation to require individuals to store firearms unloaded, locked, and separate from ammunition.

I urge the Committee to reject SB 116. Too many children's lives are cut short by unintentional shootings and suicides every year. Please do all you can to help protect them. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lene Brooke
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