

Submitter: mary luthy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

Dear Representatives,

The frontal cortex of the brain, that controls decision making, is not fully developed until approximately 25 years of age.((
<https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=141164708>)) In addition, emotional processing can be volatile due to hormones and the concurrently stressful developmental movement to independence. The current mental health crisis in young people has been well documented. Lethal weapons can have permanent consequences and do not belong in the hands of young people who are not fully developed.

I have been a school psychologist for over twenty years. My job involves intellectual and behavior testing as well as de-escalation training for staff. I have assessed students who are homicidal and suicidal. I have attended expulsion hearings for students who brought weapons to school. I have spent hours in a closet as a SWAT team searched my high school.

You have the opportunity to protect our community. I urge you to pass HB 2006 and prohibit those under age 21 from possessing firearms.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Luthy