

SGA Resolution 2-16-S

A Resolution Formally Opposing House Bill 1736 as proposed by Representative Andy Holt

Whereas: Tennessee State Representative Andy Holt has proposed house bill 1736 with the stated intention of allowing university faculty and staff to carry handguns on any state public institution in the Tennessee Board of Regents and the University of Tennessee System.

Whereas: The University Police Department at Middle Tennessee State University is a fully functioning law enforcement agency that is open and operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in order to provide police services on the MTSU campus.

Whereas: MTSU Police Officers are certified by the State of Tennessee as authorized police officers with full police powers including the authority to respond to criminal complaints and emergencies, investigate crimes, and effect arrests.

Whereas: There are currently no colleges or universities in the Tennessee Board of Regents that allow faculty or staff to carry a concealed weapon.

Whereas: If implemented across campus, faculty and staff with concealed weapons will make the non-carrying public feel less safe.

Whereas: Overall crime reported by Tennessee colleges and universities has decreased over 6.3% since 2014.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE 78th CONGRESS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

Section 1: The Student Government Association of Middle Tennessee State University opposes House Bill 1736 as proposed by Representative Andy Holt.

Section 2: The Executive Board will compose a letter of opposition to the bill and send it to Governor Bill Haslem, Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey, House Speaker Beth Harwell and Representative Andy Holt.

Sponsor: Kenneth Anthony

Speaker of the Senate

SGA President

VP of Student Affairs