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**FACULTY LEADERS OF TENNESSEE’S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES OPPOSE
GUNS ON CAMPUS BILL**

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Today, the Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS), which represents over 10,000 faculty members at the ten public universities in Tennessee, **released the following statement in opposition to [HB2102/SB2288](#)**, which would allow students to carry guns on campus.

“We’re speaking out because we’re concerned this bill would increase violent events on campus, including unintentional shootings, and put faculty, staff, and students at risk,” said **Dr. Pippa Holloway, president of TUFS and a professor of history at Middle Tennessee State University**. “This bill would undermine our number one priority — giving students a high-quality education and positioning them for success in the future. Professors frequently have tough conversations with students about sensitive issues like academic performance, disciplinary actions, and financial aid status. Adding firearms to this mix would threaten the safety of our campuses, as well as negatively impact the recruitment and retention of faculty and students.”

HB2102/SB2288 could increase costs for public universities. A similar law in Idaho increased costs for public universities [by \\$3.7 million](#). In 2016, TUFS members collectively approved a resolution opposing bills allowing students to have guns on campus. Faculty senates across the state have reaffirmed their opposition to such bills, namely, [HB 2102/SB2288](#). The text of the resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, the Tennessee University Faculty Senates (TUFS), which represents over 10,000 faculty at 10 public universities, supports the position of campus law enforcement and safety officials that allowing students to have guns on campuses will increase the incidence of events of violence, and

WHEREAS, allowing students to have guns on campus will foster a hostile work environment for faculty, staff, and students employed on campus,

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the membership of TUFS strongly opposes any legislation that will allow students to have guns on campus.

About [TUFS](#)

TUFS is an association of the Faculty Senates of the ten four-year public universities in Tennessee. It represents the interests of over 10,000 faculty members across the state.

<https://tnfacultyssenates.org/>

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