

TEXAS  STATE<sup>®</sup>  
PSYCHOLOGY

A majority of the faculty members in the Department of Psychology at Texas State University are opposed to Senate Bill (SB) 11 which allows for the carrying of concealed handguns into classrooms on university campuses. By a vote of 17 to 6 in April 2016 the faculty members endorse the statement below.

As a group, we oppose SB 11 for several reasons:

- 1) We believe that SB 11 is inconsistent with the core mission of this university in that Texas State is “dedicated to excellence in serving the educational needs of its’ diverse population...” and we believe that the possible presence of concealed handguns could impede and negate this core mission.
- 2) We are concerned that the increased presence of concealed handguns in university buildings may increase the risk of serious accidents.
- 3) We do not believe that the presence of concealed handguns at Texas State will necessarily make the campus safer and we question if the presence of concealed handguns might, indeed, have the opposite effect.
- 4) We recognize that many faculty and students have expressed serious concerns of allowing concealed carry and those concerns, in and of themselves, may detract from the main mission of the university.

In summary, we believe that the presence of concealed handguns is inappropriate in an educational setting, may hinder or negate the stated mission of this university and allows for opportunities that could be both harmful and detrimental to our faculty, staff and students.