

## *Students rally for increased gun control*

About 250 students from Cincinnati, Cleveland and Columbus descended on the Statehouse on National School Walkout Day (March 14) to encourage legislators to enact new laws to reduce gun violence. The group – Lobbying for a Safer Tomorrow – seeks actions to ban the sale of assault rifles and bump stocks, and to keep guns out of the hands of individuals with mental health problems.

In addition to meeting with about two-dozen members of the Ohio Senate and House, the group's plans included a rally outside the Senate chamber as session – which was ultimately cancelled due to the Senate president's illness – was scheduled to begin.

The students voiced support for S.B. 150 (to prohibit individuals charged with domestic violence from having guns), S.B. 219 (to ban bump stocks and assault weapons) and S.B. 260 (to create a firearms database) -- and opposition to S.B. 180 and H.B. 229 (so-called Stand Your Ground legislation) and S.B. 208 and H.B. 201 (to expand concealed carry laws).

Across the country – including here in Ohio – thousands of students and teachers walked out of their classrooms as part of the #Enough! National School Walkout, organized by Women's March Youth Empower.



*Focus Learning Academy students respectfully, calmly and peacefully demonstrated their right to protest gun violence during National School Walkout Day.*