

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chairwoman John, Ranking Member Representative Kelly, and Members of the State and Local Government Committee,

My name is Kat Cochrane-Yamaguchi, and I am a parent of a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, 8<sup>th</sup> grader, and preschooler in central Ohio. I hold a Master's Degree in Education from Miami University and have over 20 years' experience educating and building programs in the higher education and nonprofit sectors. **I strongly oppose both HB 322 and HB 327.**

Any legislation that universally prohibits content in a K-12 or Higher Education classroom is anti-education. The tenets of a strong educational system include developing curiosity, self-respect, and responsibility to others. This cannot occur if critical thinking about academic content and current events are stifled. This cannot occur if entire events of a person's heritage and cultural experiences are banned from inclusion in class content.

As an example, my children, who are of Japanese descent, should learn about the US Government's violation of its own citizens' rights in WWII as it seized land and property from Americans of Japanese descent and herded and imprisoned them into internment camps. HB 322 and HB 327 stand to prohibit making the introduction of that history into a K-12 or college classroom and are outrageously punitive to an educator who seeks to bring this history into the light so students can analyze what took place and develop a different path forward so this history does not repeat itself.

Please vote NO on these bills.

Thank you for reading and considering my request.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kat Cochrane-Yamaguchi