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**From:** Glen Tuomaala

**Date:** 4-16-23

**RE:** Opponent Testimony HJR1 and SJR2

I'm a proud graduate of Bowling Green State University and the University of Cincinnati. During graduate school at the College-Conservatory of Music my degree required me to pass a class titled, "Measurement and Evaluation of Music Education" It was taught by one of the most amazing teachers I've ever had.

You know the one I'm talking about? If you're lucky you're going to have two or three teachers who have changed your life for the better.

The teacher who cared about you as a person. The teacher who loved themselves and their students. And yes, the one teacher who was so intelligent that they would strike fear into your soul. That was Dr. Elizabeth Wing.

On our first day of class she blindsided all of us by asking, "*why do you want to spend two years of your life and money to try to earn a Masters degree?*" None of us were ready to answer that question. Her point was that we needed to stop focusing on just the "what" we need to learn and start asking "why" was it important.

It was like getting hit in the face with a wet hammer. And, I've never forgotten it.

Why? Why would anyone support HJR1 and SJR2? It takes away citizen led ballot measures and removes democracy from the state of Ohio. Let that sink in for a moment. You love Ohio as much as I do. Don't do this.

Don't be remembered for voting against democracy in Ohio. We both love democracy. Let's love it more. Don't do this. Please... Don't. Do. This.