

**Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 83  
House Committee on Higher Education  
November 15, 2023**

**[Sahar Shalash, Real Estate Broker]  
[Your Org/Affiliation]**

Chair Young, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Miller, and Members of the Higher Education Committee,

Hello!

My name is Sahar Shalash. Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My purpose is to express my discontent with SB83. Expressly it's restrictive nature and dangerous precedent it sets. I am adamantly against SB83. I reside in Columbus, Ohio. I am a resident, property owner and business proprietor within Columbus Ohio. I am here to express my concern over said bill.

I am a proud American. I am also a proud graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in economics. I have been recognized as a "Top 10 under 40" honoree by the Columbus Board of Realtors. I have also received recognition for same by The Ohio Senate. Truly I believe in the American dream.

However, I must express my discontent with SB83.

SB83 is in direct contradiction of the 1st amendment's right to free speech. It is dangerous and clearly censors the voice of reason and the right to engage in debate and free thought.

SB83 limits the ability to engage in the very ideologies and freedoms that make the halls like at my alma maters great.

I think of my parents, who came to this country from Palestine, in search of the American dream. The dream that their daughter would be educated, assimilated and accepted, irrelevant to her background and religious beliefs and the ability to disagree and engage in lively debate without being censored and restricted but that's exactly what SB83 does.

I pray that SB83 is removed and this country returns to what makes it great. What makes our country great is the ability to disagree and still be one. The bill will have a multifaceted affect in the community. It will effectuate all families in their ability to exercise free speech. In summary, Sb83 does not align with the 1st amendment and must not be allowed to stand.