

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 11-27-22

Name: Ron Gay

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): Communications Workers of America-District 4

Position/Title: Staff Representative

Address: 20525 Center Ridge Rd.

City: Rocky River State: OH Zip: 44116

Best Contact Telephone: 440-333-6363 Email: RGAY@CWA-UNION.ORG

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): SB 83

Specific Issue: Labor Rights and University Regulations

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Written Testimony Only

Please provide a brief statement on your position: CWA is submitting written testimony in opposition to SB 83.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

**Communications
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November 29, 2023

Chairman Young, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Member Miller, and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony today on opposition to SB 83. My name is Ron Gay. I am a Staff Representative with the Communications Workers of America, District 4.

I am here to testify today on behalf of thousands of active and retired members across Ohio whom CWA represents. Although this bill has had some improvements throughout this process, we remain strongly opposed to SB 83.

This legislation is concerning in its far reaching, negative impact on the way Ohio's institutions of higher learning are managed and how the students and employees of these institutions are affected by the rules and regulations included in this bill.

The points of concern are wide ranging. This legislation will put Ohio at a disadvantage when attempting to recruit students, faculty and other staff to live, learn and work in Ohio's higher learning community. The numerous new mandates that are included are burdensome, unnecessary and unfunded. It also appears that the language of the bill limits the ability of leaders of institutions to deal with issues of hate speech and education of employees on how to deal with the diverse world that we live in.

Additionally, while some of the language around labor rights has been improved, there are still onerous changes to how some university employees are treated and their ability to negotiate in good faith with their employers.

I urge this committee to reject SB 83.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Gay', is written over a horizontal line.

Ron Gay
CWA Staff Representative