

Testimony of Marianne Martens, Ph.D.

Before the House Higher Education Committee
Rep. Tom Young, Chair
November 27, 2023

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

My name is Marianne Martens and I am a Professor of Library and Information Science at Kent State University where I have taught since 2012. I do not represent Kent State, but rather am submitting testimony as a private citizen in opposition to Substitute Senate Bill 83.

SB 83 is an attack on academic freedom and collective bargaining and will undermine the quality higher education available for students across the state of Ohio. This bill will hurt the ability of Ohio Colleges and Universities to attract the best candidates to teach our young people and may encourage existing faculty to leave the state.

Further, young people making decisions about where to go to college may decide to choose other institutions in other states. This bill will hurt Ohio's ability to compete economically. Thank you for stopping this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Marianne Martens, Ph.D.