

Chairman Cirino, Vice Chair Rulli, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony today. My name is Victoria Cataloni. I am a second year PhD student in Studies of the Portuguese Speaking World, in the department of Spanish and Portuguese at The Ohio State University. I am submitting testimony today because I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 83 in the Ohio House.

We, the students, do not want Bill 83. We, the educators, do not want this Bill. Please, look at who supports this Bill - it is not us.

This Bill is good for no one except for those who want to dismantle years of progress towards creating a more equal and free nation. Marginalized groups will be set back due to Bill 83 passing. History will be repeated - and not for the better - but because we will be unable to teach and learn according to factual accounts. Instead our education will be based on biased nationalist propaganda.

This Bill does not support freedom, but instead advocates for censorship. You who have proposed and support this Bill do not know us - and you have repeatedly shown that you do not care to. We are speaking, and you do not care to listen. We are large in number - and you are not - yet, the majority voice seems not to matter to you either. The first time I provided testimony against Bill 83, there were 350 people who spoke against it, compared to roughly 27 in favor.

You vigorously argue that we do not represent what the people want - simply because you close your ears and eyes to us.

Consider my testimony, along with the hundreds of others who stand in opposition to this senseless Bill. Thank you again for this opportunity to submit this testimony.