

Testimony of Amrita Dhar, PhD, Assistant Professor of English at The Ohio State University Before the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee

28 November 2023

Members of the Workforce and Higher Education Committee:

My name is Amrita Dhar and I am a professor of English Literature at The Ohio State University, where I have taught for the last 5 years. I do not represent my institution, but rather am submitting testimony as a concerned citizen in opposition to SB 83. I do, however, speak as a longtime educator and lifelong advocate for free speech and diversity of ideas.

I oppose this eleventh (and continuously absurd) iteration of SB 83. In its continued anti-DEI stance, its persistent syllabus surveillance, and its open facilitation of department and program closures, this bill continues to be an insult to education and to educators in Ohio. It is a shameful record of continuing anti-DEI efforts and anti-educator efforts.

Again, I wholeheartedly oppose Sub. SB 83, which I can only see as Ohio's Anti-Education Bill, and which, if passed, will cause irreparable harm to students of all stripes in Ohio now and for long years into the future.