

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

Thank you for reading my testimony. My name is Lauren Durnwald, and I am a concerned citizen of Montgomery County, Ohio. I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 83 and its companion bill in the Ohio House.

This so-called "Higher Education Enhancement Act" is a misnomer for what is truly a Higher Education **Destruction** Act. By banning mandatory DEI training and programs and hiring and education around "controversial beliefs and policies", this bill would restrict critical academic freedom and prevent students from engaging in complicated aspects of our shared history, uncomfortable truths, and complex systems of power. This bill is bad for students, bad for higher education, and bad for Ohio.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote **NO** on this dangerous bill.

Sincerely,
Lauren Durnwald