

WORKFORCE AND
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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I Oppose the Enact Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act

Hello Chairman Cirono, Vice chairman Rulli and, other members of the Committee. My name is Devin Baisden, and I am here as a voter in the 8th district and a student at Ohio State University. As both a student and a voter in district 8. As I member of USG I work with student organizations, faculty, and administrations to address the concerns and passions of every Buckeye. As a representative of these students, I am here to strongly oppose Senate bill 83 aka the Ohio Higher Educations Enhancements Act.

In 2017 I was excited I had just received my letter of acceptance from Ohio State University, my dream school since I was kid. Since I first arrived been I have met new challenges, experiences and new friendships along the way. During my time I have met people from all types of backgrounds. This bill would affect those who come from underprivilege backgrounds. But I assume you all have heard testimony about how your bill would affect thousands of students mainly African Americans who are on Diversity scholarships and organizations like the Morrill scholarship African Americans students at Ohio State need in order they can achieve their dream career. However, I want to talk about how your bill would affect the conversation when it comes to our Climate. I am a Meteorology major, and we must learn the relationship between the weather and climate though there are differences they go hand to hand. Never at the University did my professors ever impose their beliefs on me, they showed us the data that hundreds of scientists have worked on have been peer reviewed & we came to our own conclusion. This bill would have to tell both sides of Climate change what does that even mean? Climate change is not a coin. Mr. Chair according to Energy New Network writer Kathiann Kowalski, she quotes you saying it was your idea to include climate change as a “controversial belief or policy and that you didn’t actually consult with

climate people”. So, you wrote a bill about Climate but didn’t bother asking anyone that specialize in this field of work for counsel for this?? You could have called the Byrd Polar and Climate Research about this issue. It’s just down the street. Since your district is located near the Cleveland area you could have reach out to Cleveland State or even the Lake Erie Science Center. Instead, you went to the National Association of Scholars, a nonprofit politically conservative advocacy group and took some of their concepts and put it into a very vague and very destructive bill. Maybe because they had concepts you wanted to hear. In the 17th century laws of Gravity was a controversial topic, the theory of the Ice Age was a controversial theory of the 18th and 19th century they all now have large acceptance. Climate Change being caused by humans is something 97% of Scientists agree upon. The rest are either saying Climate change is real but is not caused by humans or it’s not real at all. That data is cherry pick to the bit and cannot be trusted.

In conclusion I believe that Senate Bill 83 brings more harm than good to students, teachers and to entire colleges. I just want to bring up one point. I love Ohio. I have lived here my entire life so far; I want to live here for the rest of my life and be buried in Ohio soil when I die. But who in America wants to go to Ohio it’s not going to be for the weather if this bill gets passed not young people. Who wants to go to colleges that must tell them both sides to a non-conversational issue like climate change? In all honestly you would love for people to stay in this state, right? Well, your actions don’t speak on what you’re saying! This isn’t an Enact Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act its Higher Educations Destructions Act. Thank you for your time and this opportunity to testify.