

## ***Community Leadership Coalition on Education***

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April 18, 2023

Senator Jerry Cirino  
Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee  
Ohio State Building  
1 Capitol Square; Ground Floor 034  
Columbus, OH 43215

Greetings Senator Cirino:

This letter comes to you on behalf of the Community Leadership Coalition on Education, an organization consisting of educators, school board members, community leaders, legislators, parents and concerned citizens of the Youngstown, East Cleveland and Lorain City School Districts who have been advocating for our children and their right to receive a quality public education here in the state of Ohio.

We are writing to voice our firm opposition to Senate Bill 83. The elimination of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Training would definitely adversely affect students of color here in the state of Ohio. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion programs, offices, and employees are necessary for all people to have a fair chance. We especially take offense at your ban of teaching and hiring diversity and inclusion professionals at any school, but especially at the college and university level.

Lastly, we do not support taking away any collective bargaining rights from college staff. Prohibiting them from being able to strike is a backdoor attempt at union busting. Ohio voters rejected these kinds of measures in 2011 with the defeat of then Senate Bill 5. We stand with organized labor against this attack on worker rights. No supporter of working families would ever support this bill.

Rev. Kenneth L. Simon, Chairman



CC: Sen. Michael Rulli, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
Sen. Catherine Ingram, 9<sup>th</sup> District