

Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee

Opponent Testimony on S.B. No. 117

Gabriella Velasquez Galvan

June 6, 2023

Chairman Cirino, Vice-Chair Michael Rulli, Ranking Member Kent Smith, and members of the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee:

Please consider the following testimony in adamant opposition to Senate Bill 117. I am Gabriella Velasquez Galvan, a student at the University of Toledo College of Law (“College of Law”), the current President of the Latino Law Student Association (“LLSA”), and Managing Editor of the Law Review, Board 55. I am also the Student Liaison of the Allies, a dedicated group of student organization leaders determined to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus while ensuring a welcoming community for our underrepresented and marginalized students. While the roles I lead on campus are incredibly important to me, the following testimony is a compilation of my thoughts and my thoughts alone.

There are many ways in which the College of Law can improve upon itself to “cultivate the next generation of leaders in the legal profession”; however, none of those ways include an expansion solely on constitutional law. The one thing that the College of Law can pride itself on is a robust constitutional law program consisting of professors with varying viewpoints and a focus on “intellectual diversity”. There is a strong Federalist Society presence on campus that hosts numerous speakers and events through the support of their national organization and ties with faculty. There are constant discussions and debates about constitutional issues that are encouraged by faculty and administration. All of this to say, there is not a lack of support for the constitutional curriculum and there has been an increase in meaningful discussion surrounding the constitution.

There are far better ways for funding of this caliber to be utilized to assist the College of Law, such as an increase in diversity of race, national origin, and ethnicity as well as sexual orientation and ability. When there is an increase in diversity of people, there are bound to be new viewpoints, which in turn would increase “intellectual diversity”. The College of Law is not reaching its potential to expand on civil discourse when the majority of students are seeing from similar racial and ethnic lenses. According to the College’s 2022 Standard 509 Information

Report, across four cohorts consisting of full- and part-time students, 7 students identified as “Hispanic of any race”, 6 students identified as “Asian”, 18 students identified as “Black or African American”, and no students that identified as “American Indian or Alaska Native” or “Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander” (Exhibit A, page 2). Including multiracial students, there are a total of 51 students of color out of a total of 355 students across all cohorts (Exhibit A, page 2). As one of the three Latinx students in my cohort, I strongly believe that a focus on diversity outside of diversity of thought would be beneficial to widening the spectrum of discourse that could be had at the College of Law.

As shown by testimony from numerous students and alumni, there is not an issue of cultivating leaders in the legal profession. Future leaders have been formed in part through the constitutional curriculum that is currently present, but largely due to there being constant discussions surrounding constitutional issues on campus and in current events. It is distasteful and insulting to insinuate that such a large sum of funds go to one section of the law that students already vigorously participate in and seek to expand their knowledge on independently.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Gabriella Velasquez Galvan

Gabriella Velasquez Galvan, J.D. Candidate

University of Toledo College of Law

Exhibit A

TOLEDO, UNIVERSITY OF - 2022 Standard 509 Information Report

2801 West Bancroft St MS 507

Toledo, OH 43606

Phone: (419) 530-2882

Website: <https://www.utoledo.edu/law/>

<http://www.abarequireddisclosures.org>

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The Basics

Type of school	Public
Application deadline	11/15/2022, 08/01/2023
Application fee	\$0
Financial aid deadline	08/01/2023

Academic Calendar

Term	Semester
Months students may begin studying law	August, January
Months the Law school confers degrees	May, August, December
# of credit hours required to earn the JD	89

Curricular Offerings 2021-2022

	2021-2022
Typical first-year section size, excluding Legal Research & Writing	57
Number of course titles, beyond the first year curricular, offered last year	48
Number of upper division class room course sections with an enrollment:	
Under 25	28
25 to 49	17
50 to 74	7
75 to 99	3
100 +	0
Number of seats available in law clinics last year	38
Number of field placement positions filled last year	80
Number of seats available in simulation courses	135
Number of seminars	5
Number of co-curricular offerings	5

2022 First Year Class (Oct 6th 2021-Oct 5th 2022)

	2022
Completed Applications	554
Offers of Admission	242
Acceptance Rate (Percent)	43.68%
Enrollees from Applicant pool	88
Enrollment rate from Completed Applications	15.88%
Enrollment rate from Offers of Admission	36.36%
Other first-year enrollees	6

	All	Full Time	Part Time
Total in First-year class	94	94	0
LSAT	All	Full Time	Part Time
75th Percentile	155	155	0
50th Percentile	152	152	0
25th Percentile	149	149	0
# not included in LSAT calculations	3	3	0
UGPA	All	Full Time	Part Time
75th Percentile	3.79	3.79	0.00
50th Percentile	3.55	3.55	0.00
25th Percentile	3.23	3.23	0.00
# not included in UGPA calculations	2.00	2.00	0
GRE	All	Full Time	Part Time
GRE Admissions Enrollees	3	3	0
75th Percentile GRE Verbal Reasoning			
50th Percentile GRE Verbal Reasoning			
25th Percentile GRE Verbal Reasoning			
75th Percentile GRE Quantitative Reasoning			
50th Percentile GRE Quantitative Reasoning			
25th Percentile GRE Quantitative Reasoning			
75th Percentile GRE Analytical Writing			
50th Percentile GRE Analytical Writing			
25th Percentile GRE Analytical Writing			

J.D Enrollment as of October 5th 2022

	JD1					JD2					JD3					JD4					Total	
	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR		T
Hispanics of any race	2	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Black or African American	6	2	4	0	0	11	4	7	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two or More Races	6	4	2	0	0	10	3	7	0	0	3	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	20
Total People of Color	16	8	8	0	0	24	8	16	0	0	10	6	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	51
White	77	31	46	0	0	117	68	49	0	0	84	33	51	0	0	11	5	6	0	0	0	289
Nonresident Alien	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Race and Ethnicity Unknown	2	0	2	0	0	8	6	2	0	0	5	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Total	95	39	56	0	0	149	82	67	0	0	99	40	59	0	0	12	6	6	0	0	0	355

Faculty Resources 2021 - 2022

	Male	Female	Other/Not Reported	People of Color	Total
Full-time faculty members	13	9	0	1	22
Non-full-time faculty	9	11	0	2	20
Total	22	20	0	3	42
	Full Time	Part Time		Total	
Librarians	4	1		5	

J.D. Degrees Awarded 2021-2022

Hispanics of any race	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	0
Asian	3
Black or African American	6
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Two or More Races	9
Total People of Color	19
White	71
Nonresident Alien	1
Race and Ethnicity Unknown	2
Total	93

1L Tuition and Fees 2022 - 2023

Per Annual:	Resident Annual Fees	Non-Resident Annual Fees	Other Annual Fees	Annual Fees	Annual Fees
Full-Time	\$ 24,678	\$ 3,012	\$ 24,678	\$ 3,212	\$ 0
Part-Time	\$ 18,509	\$ 2,499	\$ 18,509	\$ 2,699	\$ 0
Per Credit:	Resident Annual Fees	Non-Resident Annual Fees	Other Annual Fees	Annual Fees	Annual Fees
Full-Time	\$ 1,028	\$ 3,012	\$ 1,028	\$ 3,212	\$ 0
Part-Time	\$ 1,028	\$ 2,499	\$ 1,028	\$ 2,699	\$ 0
Tuition Guarantee Program		No			

Living Expenses 2022-2023

Estimated Living Expenses for singles	
Living on Campus	\$ 18,819
Living Off Campus	\$ 18,819
Living At Home	\$ 8,745

Conditional Scholarships 2021-2022

The school does not award scholarships that may be reduced or eliminated based on law school academic performance other than failure to maintain good academic standing. Therefore, the school does not complete a 'conditional scholarship retention chart.'

Grants and Scholarships 2021-2022

	Total		Full Time		Part Time	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total # of students	385	100	322	84	63	16
Total # receiving grants	288	75	241	75	47	75
Less than 1/2 tuition	140	36	99	31	41	65
Half to full tuition	134	35	129	40	5	8
Full tuition	0	0	0	0	0	0
More than full tuition	14	4	13	4	1	2
75th Percentile grant amount			\$ 23,064		\$ 10,000	
50th Percentile grant amount			\$ 15,300		\$ 8,000	
25th Percentile grant amount			\$ 10,000		\$ 5,000	

Academic Attrition 2021-2022

	JD1						JD2					JD3					JD4					UL	
	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	%	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR		%
Hispanics of any race	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Black or African American	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Two or More Races	1	0	1	0	0	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total People of Color	1	0	1	0	0	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
White	3	0	3	0	0	2.1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
Nonresident Alien	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Race and Ethnicity Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4	0	4	0	0	2.3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5

Other Attrition 2021-2022

	JD1						JD2					JD3					JD4					UL	
	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	%	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	T	M	W	AGI	PNR	%	
Hispanics of any race	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Asian	1	0	1	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Black or African American	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Two or More Races	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total People of Color	1	0	1	0	0	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
White	5	1	4	0	0	3.6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
Nonresident Alien	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Race and Ethnicity Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	6	1	5	0	0	3.4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5

Transfers 2021-2022

JD1 Transfers Out	5
Transfers In*	1
75th Percentile JD1 GPA	0.00
50th Percentile JD1 GPA	0.00
25th Percentile JD1 GPA	0.00
*GPA Percentiles provided if School has 12 or more transfers in. If more than 5 but less than 12 transfers in only 50th percentile will be provided.	