

Testimony of Amy Leibrock  
Before the House Workforce and Higher Education Committee  
Rep. Tom Young, Chair  
March 7, 2025

Chair Young, Vice Chair Ritter, Ranking Member Piccolantonio, and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

Thank you for receiving my testimony. My name is Amy Leibrock, and I am an alum of Ohio University, a public school graduate and a Cincinnati Public Schools parent. I am submitting testimony as a private citizen. **I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.**

I grew up in Ohio, received a great education through a public k-12 school and went on to earn a journalism degree from one of the country's top programs at Ohio University. I moved out of state in 1997 and returned in 2012 to raise my family, in part because of the strong schools and many options for a quality public higher education. In light of what is happening to education in this state, I regret this decision.

If this bill becomes law as written, I do not feel comfortable sending my child, who is in ninth grade now, to college in Ohio. **I am alarmed at how this bill aims to restrict how topics can be taught, how it devalues educators and removes their job protections, and how it will make our schools less welcoming places for a diverse population of students.**

I am not alone. I know many parents and fellow OU alum who feel as I do. This disastrous bill will weaken higher education in this state. Many of our best and brightest students and faculty will leave, and those from out of state will go elsewhere. Those students who stay will lose out on a robust, well-rounded education. The ripple effects will negatively impact Ohio's businesses and municipalities as well.

This bill is terrible for Ohio. I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Amy Leibrock

Cincinnati, Ohio