

Chair Young, Vice Chair Ritter, Ranking Member Piccolantonio, and members of the House Workforce & Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Dale Lykins. I live in Maineville and am a pastor of The Open Table in Mason. I am a 1985 graduate of The Ohio State University. I have a son who graduated from Ohio University. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

My life has been enriched by my experiences in higher education, especially in my home state of Ohio. The ability to discuss and learn from other opinions and perspectives is so valuable to my vocation as a pastor. This bill will restrict teachers, professors, boards and policies of our higher education institutions in Ohio in ways that will harm the future of our state. We will lose educators and students to other less restrictive states.

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Dale Lykins