Testimony of Sharon Nicopolis Before the House Workforce and Higher Education Committee Rep. Tom Young, Chair March 9, 2025

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

My name is Sharon Nicopolis and I stand in opposition to SB1/ HB6 for the following reasons and I can't urge you strongly enough to do the same for the sake of the future of educating our students.

- Senate Bill 1 would be big government deciding how Ohio's public universities are allowed to operate and what they are allowed to teach. Keep politicians out of our classrooms. Say NO to Ohio SB 1.
- Senate Bill 1 would be a major hit to Ohio's economy. If it passes, our state would lose students, professors, tuition dollars, tourism dollars, and countless jobs. If you want a strong Ohio economy, you need to oppose SB 1.
- There have been dozens of op-eds and testimonies from students saying they will leave Ohio or refuse to come to Ohio if SB 1 passes. If we lose students, we not only lose tuition dollars, we lose tourism dollars too. All the money spent by parents coming to visit their kids, taking them to dinner, staying at a hotel. All the money spent during college visits. Ohio would lose so much money if SB 1 passes. Please vote NO.
- Over 1,000 Ohioans submitted testimony against SB 1 in the Senate. Hundreds of those people showed up to testify in-person. Only 14 people sent in supporter testimony — and none of them were public university students. Listen to the people of Ohio. No one wants this bill. Vote NO on SB 1
- Senate Bill 1 is the worst attack on workers' rights in over a decade. It guts collective bargaining rights. It removes job protections. It bans striking for full-time staff. It even ends meaningful tenure. If you respect Ohio workers, you will vote NO on SB 1.