

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 Sarah Bowman, and I am a lifelong Ohioan and a mother of college bound teenagers . I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

I want my kids to learn critical thinking skills by discussing difficult issues with gifted academics who are treated with respect when they are at college, not be part of the flow of students and professors this bill will cause to leave the state and hurt our economy. Limiting topics that can be discussed on the college level insults both our students and the faculty members that have trained for years in order to teach them. This bill further insults professors--it guts collective bargaining rights. It removes job protections. It bans striking for full-time staff. It even ends meaningful tenure. We will lose talented people and students will look elsewhere for schools.

Defeating this bill is quite obviously the will of the people as well.

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

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.