

Testimony of Mansi Goyal
Before the House Workforce and Higher Education Committee
Rep. Tom Young, Chair
March 11, 2025

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

My name is Mansi Goyal, and I am a PhD student and a Graduate Teaching Associate at Ohio State University for 4 years. I do not represent my university but rather am submitting testimony as a private citizen.

Two main reasons in my decision to live and pursue my doctoral degree in the state of Ohio were: 1) the strengths of the faculty and their research, and 2) the university being a top-ranked public institution.

If passed, SB1 will 100% result in the gutting of both these factors. Had this legislation taken effect in 2020 when I was applying to graduate schools, I would have not chosen to move to here.

Consider the perspective of prospective graduate workers and PhDs on the academic job market:

Why would any of these people seek degrees and employment where the terms of their working conditions are unfairly attacked?

Why would scholars, researchers, and teachers seek to teach, mentor students, and produce knowledge for the public in a state where a group of senators – with no substantial experience in higher education and its specific workplace conditions – take unfounded decisions about their livelihoods?

The loss of these potential employees means the loss of research and undergraduate tuition dollars. Losing such talent and funding will detract from the quality of Ohio public universities, their monetary resources, as well as the wider economy of the state.

The passage of this bill spells doom for all, and therefore I strongly urge to you vote no.