

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

FROM: Joanie Berger (Ohio resident)

DATE: March 9, 2025

RE: Ohio SB 1 is harmful to Ohio

Thank you for allowing me to testify today in writing. My name is Joanie Berger. I am a Shaker Heights resident, a parent, a human resources executive, and someone who has Ohio's best interests as my priority.

I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6. In addition to my personal feeling that this bill is hurtful, this bill 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.

I have friends and colleagues around the country who are pausing before thinking about sending their students to Ohio schools. That is NOT good for Ohio!

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.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful and destructive bill. It distracts our Ohio legislature from doing the real work that needs to be done to help Ohioans.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.