

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Eileen Vizcaino.

I have dedicated 36 years of my life to teaching in America's public high schools where I was privileged to work with young people who were thoughtful, curious and deeply engaged in learning how to deal effectively with the world into which they would be thrust upon graduation. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

The world for which we hope to prepare our young people to survive and contribute is changing so rapidly that none of us can predict what life will look like even ten years from now. To aim put such strictures on their ability to investigate and imagine is like sending a young soldier to battle with neither armor nor weapon. Knowledge is power and you seek to deprive students of their ability to survive.

Ohio seeks to be a magnet for innovation and manufacturing. Will any business want to bring their creative echelon and their families into an environment that offers students an intellectual straight jacket? Your bill does not present Ohio as an attractive environment in which to create and innovate and will only add to the already declining number of Ohio residents. Please consider using your energies in a manner that seeks to build rather than destroy.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on these sadly myopic pieces of proposed legislation , SB1 and HB6.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of Ohio's students.