

Testimony of Dasha Crocker
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 Dasha Crocker, and I am a senior studying astrophysics at The Ohio State University. I do not represent Ohio State but rather am submitting testimony as a private citizen because I believe in the independence of higher education. I have received a world-class education at Ohio State thanks to my professors' willingness to discuss controversial topics. I have also benefited from programs promoting diversity that have been an integral part of my education. If these topics and programs are banned, I fear that future students will not be able to compete with their peers from outside the state. This will undoubtedly have economic consequences for Ohio and may cause some students to seek better education elsewhere.