

Testimony of Elizabeth Falter, PhD
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 Elizabeth Falter, and I am an alum of The Ohio State University and a current resident of Columbus, Ohio. I do not represent Ohio State, but rather am submitting testimony as a private citizen. I write to strenuously oppose SB1, as it would have a devastating effect on the educational experience of students at public universities across the state. The bill, as written, will erode a number of vital elements of these institutions, including union rights and academic freedom. While the bill purports to support intellectual diversity, its bans on all diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives does the exact opposite. Banning these initiatives will stifle the lively debate and conversation that characterize the best college classrooms. Striking down this bill will allow for this lively conversation to continue and allow intellectual diversity to thrive in public colleges in Ohio.