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**Subject: Strong Opposition to Senate Bill 1/House Bill 6 – Protect Faculty Rights, Collective Bargaining, and Students**

I am writing as a concerned faculty member at Columbus State Community College and a member of the Columbus State Education Association to strongly oppose **House Bill 6 (HB6)**. This bill **undermines collective bargaining rights, limits academic freedom, and imposes rigid faculty workload and evaluation policies** without regard for the needs of students, faculty, or institutions of higher education. But it isn't just professors who will be impacted. Should this unpopular bill become law, its long-term effects will devastate our state economically in the future – impacting every single Ohioan.

**This legislation is unfounded.** The idea that Ohio professors are “brainwashing” students or limiting their right to free thought is patently absurd. If this were true, then how did so many well-known Republicans – such as Jim Jordan, Frank LaRose, Dave Yost, Keith Faber, and even Vice President JD Vance – graduate from Ohio colleges?

**This legislation is widely unpopular.** Over 850 Ohioans submitted testimony in opposition to SB1, while only 14 testified in favor of it. In other words, 98% of Ohioans said “NO” to this bill. Since it passed the Senate, there have been well-attended protests both on and off college campuses across the state.

**This legislation will devastate Ohio's economy.** If this bill becomes law, the higher education programs of at least two dozen professions will be at risk. Licensing and certification exams require these topics – climate policies, electoral politics, foreign policy, cultural competency, abortion, and more. Without this content, Ohio's programs will no longer be viable. The professions themselves will struggle and fold. Examples include:

- **Nursing (NCLEX-RN, NCLEX-PN, Advanced Practice Exams):** Requires training on public health, social determinants of health, and policies affecting medical care access.
- **Law (Ohio Bar Exam):** Lawyers must understand constitutional law, family, law, immigration, and policy-related legal frameworks.

- **Medicine (USMLE, COMLEX, Ohio Medical Board Licensing):** Physicians need education on public health policies, environmental health, and medical ethics.
- **Public Health (CHES, CPH):** Professionals require an understanding of how policies affect healthcare and epidemiology.
- **Pharmacology:** Currently required to take cultural competency classes, legislative and regulatory policy, and women's health knowledge (including abortion medications).
- **Social Work (LISW, LSW):** Requires knowledge of public policies, family structures, immigration issues, and ethics.

**Other impacted fields would include psychology; teaching; environmental science; urban planning; counseling and therapy; criminal justice; public administration; journalism and communications; real estate; business and finance; emergency management; engineering; firefighting and emergency medical services; aviation; library science; international relations and diplomacy; and social and community services.**

Any Ohioan pursuing a career or licensure in these fields will be forced to go to another state to complete their required coursework. So unless you would like to live in a state without nurses, doctors, lawyers, or teachers, then you should not allow this devastating bill to become law.

Ohio's higher education system thrives when **faculty have a voice in shaping policies that impact our students' success**. I urge you to **vote against HB6** and instead support policies that respect student needs and faculty expertise, uphold academic freedom, and protect collective bargaining rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further and hope you will stand with faculty and students by opposing this harmful legislation.

Sincerely,

**Valerie Cumming**

Columbus State Community College  
Columbus State Education Association