

Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony regarding Senate Bill 1 / House Bill 6. My name is Dr. Scott Tobias, CFLE (Certified Family Life Educator). I am an expert in human development and family science. My area of expertise focuses on strengthening and support families in all forms. **I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 1.**

In short, SB1 chooses an arbitrary set of topics which should be avoided in the higher ed, including one in which I am an expert on – marriage. There seems to be no logical reason why the list of “controversial” topics has been chosen other than to eliminate discussions and what we know scientifically. Instead, it seems to be a move to weaponize a supposed culture war and to limit academic freedom. This alone shows the bill is harmful to higher education and specifically to my area of expertise.

In addition, this bill severely curbs collective bargaining rights, which have been in place for nearly 40 years. One of the benefits of collective bargaining is the ability to attract post-secondary educators to the state because they know their career trajectory will be more positive than if they were not in a collective bargaining situation (National Compensation Survey, 2023). The benefits generated by collective bargaining include more economic impact in local and state arenas, strengthening the state. Eliminating these rights would make Ohio a pariah for hiring, reducing the number of college-educated individuals introduced into the workforce, and limit Ohio’s economic growth through the impacts that post-secondary educations have on the state. I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Sincerely,

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