

Chair Young, Vice Chair Ritter, Ranking Member Piccolantonio, and members of the House Workforce & Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Lyric Dickson, and I am testifying on behalf of myself as an individual. I am a student currently studying History and English at Kent State University. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

University is a time for self-decided education, where you can go out into the world and choose what you want to learn about. The key word there is *choose*; nobody is forcing you to take any specific class with a professor who teaches it a particular way. I know I personally have not taken a class because of a professor's teaching methods, even if their beliefs aligned with mine. As a college student, you are able to pick the education you receive and pay for it. Why should the Ohio legislature be allowed to change what will be taught in courses we pay for, usually from our own pockets. As a History student, the proposed changes in regards to "Controversial Topics and Policies" would make learning about historical events near impossible including, though not limited to, the Holocaust, which I am happy to provide data to support. Why should I have to be worried about receiving data-based information in a class I have paid for?

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this thoughtless bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.