

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

As a college graduate and a technical college instructor, I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

What a capricious attack on education at the college level! The authors do not seem to have a sense of how people teach. Of course, you have heard about the attack on workers' rights, and the attacks on education itself. You have been hearing about this deterring students from coming to Ohio for college, or driving our students out of state even sooner. My focus is about teaching about controversies, including climate change. In science, we constantly need to be asking, "What is the evidence?" Opinions don't really matter—what matters is what the evidence says. In other fields, people may state a thesis; they then need to support their thesis. Not all opinions are valid; understanding this, and practicing examining evidence are a key part of education.

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