

Testimony of Hee-Young Shin, Ph.D  
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 Hee-Young Shin, and I am a professor of economics at Wright State University, where I have taught for more than 10 years. I do not represent Wright State University, but I want to submit my testimony as a private citizen in opposition to Senate Bill 1.

The proposed Senate Bill that your Committee is discussing severely constrains, if not eliminate, professors' ability to teach and research without fearing any arbitrary penalty imposed by the university administration and by extremist political and ideological attack from outside the campus.

Some provisions in the Bill are fundamentally totalitarian in nature, which does not have any historical precedence in the US higher education history. The bill itself is a direct contradiction to what Adam Smith and the Founding Father of this country once called upon - civil liberty based upon the restraint of arbitrary execution of the state power.

If you care about the future of Ohio higher education, the best thing to do is to increase the education funding for public colleges and universities so that our students can (1) focus on their own learning without being dragged and interrupted by part-time work, (2) train themselves to acquire cutting-edge skills and knowledge, thereby they can contribute to the local economy after the graduation. Investing more on students' learning, especially on liberal arts programs, mathematics and statistics, is the keys to their future success.

I hope our elected representatives in both Senate and House actively discuss how to improve the quality of the public education programs in the state of Ohio, rather than imposing all the "banning" lists.

Sincerely yours,