

**Testimony of Camilla Yankson Before the House Higher Education Committee  
Representative Tom Young, Chair**

Chair Young, Vice Chair Ritter, Ranking Member Piccolantonio, and Members of the Higher Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide a written testimony against SB1.

My name is Camilla Yankson, and I am a third year Political Science scholar with a certificate in Public Relations at the University of Cincinnati. As a student of this public institution, I am submitting this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 1.

Living in Ohio for nearly my entire life has taught me many things. But primarily, how many residents of the state of Ohio have a plethora of intersections that makes the cities they inhabit, the neighborhoods they live in, the schools they teach in, and the classes they attend, so much more of a meaningful experience. Our educational system has allowed us to explore and appreciate these intersectionalities despite the federal government, and state, trying their absolute best to erase this.

For myself, I am the definition of **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**. The fulfillment of SB1 would mean the erasure of me and all of my lived experiences. This bill is concerning as it is attacking our rights as students and citizens of the United States of America, and shows the alarming rate at which you, **our** elected officials, are working tirelessly to censor our speech and education. Without access to these resources in education, student life, funding for higher education, many of you would not have your respective positions in the State House.

I call for you to read SB1 **again in its entirety**, and to put yourself in the shoes of students and educators, who will continue to shape the culture of the state of Ohio.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony today. I ask that you take my testimony to heart and vote **NO** on this bill before it harms the education of Ohioans.

Thank you for your time.