

Written Testimony of John Stover  
President, Ohio Value Voters  
Workforce and Higher Education Committee  
Senate Bill 1  
March 17, 2025

Chairman Young, Vice Chair Ritter, and members of the Committee: my name is John Stover and I am the President of Ohio Value Voters. Our organization promotes the values of Faith, Life, Families, and Religious Freedom. Since 2007, our purpose has been to educate, inform, and influence voters and elected officials in Ohio. We are independent of any political party, religious organization, or political action committee. Ohio Value Voters is a registered 501(c)(4) organization.

Our organization is in support of Senate Bill 1 and urges the committee to pass this bill to the House Floor for a vote.

This bill will prohibit the wasteful spending of tax dollars for the promotion of DEI-related activity in state institutions of higher learning. According to the report of “OpenTheBooks Oversight Report”, Ohio State University had spent \$13.3 million on payroll for DEI-related personnel in 2023. This was for only one university in the State of Ohio. When considering all centers for higher learning, the amount of spending is well over a hundred million dollars.

This bill will also address foreign donations from other countries. For example, according to the before mentioned report, Ohio State University has reported \$203.5 million from foreign sources since 2013. Most of this came from China in the amount of \$15.8 million.

The report can be found here and begins on page six:  
[State of the State Schools Oversight Report FINAL.pdf](#)

The Legislative Service Commission’s Bill Analysis Summary has provided the many other benefits to parents and students in Ohio.

Ohio Value Voters thanks Senator Jerry Cirino for the introduction of this bill.

In conclusion, it is respectfully requested that this bill be passed by the committee and sent to the House Floor for a vote.

Thank you.

John Stover, President  
Ohio Value Voters