

Laurie Maynell
319 Acton Road
Columbus, OH. 43214

Feb. 10, 2025

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Ingram and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Laurie Maynell. I am a staff employee of the Ohio State University. I have worked at Ohio State for 18 years, first as a faculty developer, supporting our faculty in their teaching roles, and now as a course designer for our online programs, collaborating with faculty to create effective online course for our students. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

Removing DEI initiatives will reduce access to education for several students from marginalized populations. The effect will be to reduce the intellectual diversity on campus that the bill claims to promote. For an older but still very relevant piece on this, please see Phillips, K.W. (2014, Oct. 1.) [How Diversity Makes Us Smarter](#). *Scientific American*.

In my nearly two decades of working with Ohio State's world-class faculty, I have observed that all of them strive to provide the very best teaching possible. They care deeply that students learn; they do not wish to indoctrinate students. This bill will prevent them from doing their jobs effectively. If the bill passes, Ohio State will fail to attract the best and brightest faculty candidates. When applicants stop applying to our flagship institution, Ohio's economy will suffer.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful, discriminatory bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Maynell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurie Maynell