

Opponent for SB1

Higher Education Committee

2/10/25

Morgan Albert, Speech Pathologist

Chair, Vice Chair, Ranking Member, and members of the Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Morgan Albert (she/her).

I am a pediatric speech-language pathologist living in Northeast Ohio. I work for Akron Children's Hospital, and take great pride in the services that I provide to a variety of children and families who have a variety of developmental disorders, speech and language disorders, and neurological/psychological disorders. I am also a graduate of Ohio State University.

I would like to strongly voice my opposition to all facets of SB1.

Many of the patients that I see have flourished under the care of clinicians who either have a neurodivergent perspective themselves (such as ADHD), or who have neurodivergent children. Current medical research is limited by the perspectives of the individuals creating the research questions. As more research is conducted by clinicians, psychologists, professors, and students who come from diverse backgrounds and neurodivergent perspectives, we are better able to understand and serve the communities that count on us for care. Caring for the children of our state should be a top priority for anyone, regardless of political affiliation.

By limiting diverse perspectives in higher education, we reduce the ability to train healthcare professionals and properly serve the children and families across our state.

"I ask that you please consider my testimony and vote no on the bill.

Thank you. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Morgan Albert, CCC-SLP