

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 Erik Herrmann. I am an Associate Professor of Architecture at the Knowlton School at Ohio State University. I strongly oppose SB 1 and its companion bill, HB 6.

The bill jeopardizes Ohio State University's ability to uphold a tenet of its core mission: "Educating students through a comprehensive array of distinguished academic programs."

Distinguished academic programs exist because the university is able to recruit the best and brightest from around the country and the world to teach our students. SB1 and HB6 would effectively end meaningful tenure in Ohio. Ohio's outstanding public universities would lose the ability to attract top-tier research and teaching professors.

I myself was recruited to Ohio State University several years ago. I would not have applied if the university had not guaranteed meaningful tenure.

Since joining the university seven years ago, I've been privileged to serve on search committees for new faculty members and chairs. I am currently the new director of the Knowlton School. I know from firsthand experience that recruiting top talent is a difficult process. Recruiting top talent to fuel our distinguished academic programs will be almost impossible if these bills pass.

Please consider my testimony and vote NO on this destructive bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in writing.