

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 Hanna Primeau. I am an Instructional Designer for The Ohio State University Libraries and a PhD candidate in Learning Technologies. I have dedicated my career to improving education through inclusive teaching practices, information literacy, and the ethical use of emerging technologies. My work directly supports faculty and students by ensuring that higher education remains a place of critical inquiry, innovation, and accessibility.

I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6. These bills threaten the integrity of higher education in Ohio by undermining academic freedom, imposing unnecessary bureaucratic oversight, and restricting the ability of educators to create learning environments that foster critical thinking and open discourse. As someone who works closely with faculty and students, I see firsthand how top-down political interference disrupts meaningful learning and devalues the expertise of those who have dedicated their lives to teaching and research.

Further, my research focuses on inclusionary teaching and the ways students—especially first-generation students—navigate higher education. Policies like SB 1 create additional barriers for these students, reinforcing systemic inequities instead of addressing them. Rather than fostering a robust and competitive higher education system, this legislation will drive talented educators and students out of Ohio, weakening our institutions and harming the state's future workforce.

I urge you to consider my testimony and vote **NO** on this **destructive** bill. Ohio's students and educators deserve better.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.