

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

Thank you for allowing me to provide input on S.B. 1. My name is Lisa Borgerding. I am a Professor of Science Education and a former high school science teacher. I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 1.

Science is critical to the economic development of Ohio, and new industries within Ohio require high school graduates to be knowledgeable about science content. I run a science education teacher education program at a state university. Students in my undergraduate ADED (grades 7-12) program graduate with a degree and Ohio teaching licensure in five areas: integrated science, life science, life science/chemistry, physical science, and earth science and take a unique series of content and methods courses to make them highly qualified to teach these various sciences in our accredited programs. Similar to other teacher education programs in Ohio, we graduate only 5-13 future science teachers each year, hardly enough to keep up with demand for new highly-qualified science teachers in our great state. The language of S.B. 1 may further reduce these numbers, as we will have to eliminate any major that graduates, on average, less than 5 majors per year. Ohio and our future workforce need every secondary science teacher we can graduate.

Please vote no on this S.B. 1 so as not to further exacerbate this Ohio science teacher shortage.

Thank you,

Dr. Lisa Borgerding