February 7, 2025

Dear Chair Roegner,

My name is Jennifer Marcinkiewicz. I am a faculty member in Biological Sciences at Kent State University and one of your Hudson constituents. I am **strongly opposed** to Senate Bill 1.

As a scientist and an educator, I have a deep regard for science in service of humanity. I understand the scientific process of evaluating evidence, forming and testing hypotheses, exploring alternative hypotheses and reaching conclusions based on this process. Science acknowledges the need to revise prevailing theory in light of new evidence. True intellectual diversity is built into the process of scientific inquiry. The chilling effect of SB1 on being able to objectively teach "divisive" concepts such as climate change and evolution will have a lasting impact on our students and on our nation's ability to lead in scientific discovery. To suggest that these concepts are divisive is a function of political ideology, not functionally rooted in evidence or the scientific process. Furthermore, it mistakenly equates opinion with expertise.

Additionally, SB1 eliminates our ability to expand the pool of talent in STEM. By removing the ability to tailor programming to women in STEM or minorities, we are limiting our ability to develop students and our world to full potential. For example, our campus women's center has supported programming for STEM students. It is in these spaces that women come together to strategize how to overcome the misogyny that they experience in the classroom from their fellow (male) students, and often their professors. Eliminating programming to support women and other under-represented individuals in STEM will allow bias to flourish, and fewer individuals will enter the STEM workforce.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this [*harmful/dangerous etc.*] bill.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Marcinkiewicz, PhD

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