

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

My name is Laura Eschenauer, I am a healthcare worker, proud mother of two boys, and a resident of Westerville. I urge you to oppose Senate Bill 1. The bill's provisions faced widespread opposition from students, parents, educators, and unions in the last general assembly. SB 1 will undermine quality higher education for Ohio's students and eliminate the right for college faculty to negotiate over core working conditions, which are their students' learning conditions. SB 1 also removes the ability for full-time faculty to strike. This bill represents the largest restriction of collective bargaining rights since Senate Bill 5 in 2011.

Senate Bill 1 jeopardizes Ohio's ability to attract and retain qualified faculty and students at our colleges and universities by seeking to micromanage college classrooms, undermines academic freedom, and imposes statewide control on issues that individual institutions have already addressed. This legislation will diminish the strengths of our state's colleges and universities and harm Ohio's economy.

As I have previously stated, I am the proud mother of two boys, and I would like to see those boys succeed in their education. Unfortunately if this bill passes, I foresee Ohio losing its best professors and its top quality students to other states. Let me say again, this would devastate Ohio's economy.

For these reasons, I ask you to join me and the countless students, faculty, and concerned citizens who have expressed opposition to the bill by opposing Senate Bill 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Laura Eschenauer