

February 7, 2025

Marcy Swisher
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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 Marcy Swisher and I am a career educator and a parent of college-aged children. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

When my family moved to the area eight years ago, we chose the state of Ohio based on the reputation of its many state universities. Currently, our older child attends a state university in Ohio. Our younger child is now deciding between the Ohio State University and another prestigious out-of-state university. This bill gives us pause on allowing her to enroll in our state's premier university. Economically, this bill will cripple the university system and the effects will be felt all the way down the economic chain. We will lose top educators. We will no longer attract the best educators, researchers, and leaders in all fields. In addition, we will risk losing students to out-of-state institutions that will gladly accept our brightest scholars. Our future workforce will diminish resulting in fewer industry investment in Ohio. In short, you are flushing money away from our state. Should SB-1 and HB-6 pass, I will not allow my child to enroll in the Ohio State University, and Ohio will lose an intelligent and driven future member of the Ohio workforce.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this economically destructive bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,
Marcy Swisher