

To the Chairman and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

My name is Amanda Grueber and I am writing you as a nursing educator, doctoral student, and mother to students who may pursue higher education in Ohio.

I stand in firm opposition to Senate Bill 1 because it represents an unprecedented overreach into higher education, undermining the ability of schools to prepare healthcare students for practice in a globalized world. I hold deep concerns about Senate Bill 1's impact on both my education and career, as well as the future college opportunities for my children. Senate Bill 1 places arbitrary restrictions on faculty hiring, limits tenure protections, and forces a distorted definition of intellectual diversity that could hinder evidence-based teaching.

As a nursing educator, teaching the future generation of nursing students involves fostering the ability to empathize with patients from all walks of life without judgment or condemnation and is central to the nursing profession. This bill will directly restrict the capability of constructive dialogue among peers, faculty, students, and patients alike.

As a student, I want to be challenged, and I seek out value in diverse perspectives. I want to be the best provider to any patient I may encounter, and I believe that honest conversation about these "difficult" topics brings unity when all parties are willing to listen to each other and are open to learning new perspectives. This bill also removes diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility initiatives, therefore preventing everyone from having an equal opportunity to succeed. Without these programs, Ohio risks alienating students from underrepresented communities, discouraging them from attending Ohio schools.

By restricting how universities address diversity and banning faculty from engaging with so-called "controversial" topics, this bill ensures that students will be less prepared to engage with the realities of the world, especially in healthcare settings. I implore this committee to listen to the voices of students, educators, and community members to vote NO on this punitive, harmful, divisive, and discriminatory bill so that Ohio institutions can maintain their competitive edge, attract and retain talented educators, and provide wholistic learning opportunities for students.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1.



Recoverable Signature

X A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amanda Grueber".

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Amanda Grueber

MSN-Ed, RN, PMH-BC

Signed by: 18989fef-0f6a-4f84-8160-c7e971022bd8