

Chairman, members of the committee, my name is Dan Reynolds, and I am a parent of three children, with my oldest currently attending Ohio universities. I am testifying in opposition to Senate Bill 1 because it threatens the integrity of higher education and limits the opportunities available to my child.

As a parent, I want my child to receive the best education possible, one that prepares them to think critically, engage in meaningful discourse, and navigate an increasingly diverse world. This bill seeks to inject political oversight into university curriculums, stripping institutions of their ability to provide a robust and independent education. The elimination of DEI programs sends a message that Ohio does not value inclusion and equal opportunity. Moreover, the removal of collective bargaining rights for faculty members could destabilize universities, making it harder to attract and retain quality educators.

As an Illinois resident, we are paying a premium for out-of state tuition because Miami University provided my child the programs and opportunities she was seeking. She has been actively and diligently fighting this Bill for the last 2 years and yet no one seems to be listening to the opposition's views and testimony. I have 2 more children and if this bill passes I would not even consider sending them to Ohio for higher education. And I can guarantee I am not the only parent who will remove Ohio schools from consideration.

Please vote against Senate Bill 1.