

Chairman, members of the committee, my name is Kristen Reynolds, and I am a parent of a college student in Ohio. I am here today to express my opposition to Senate Bill 1, which appears to be a repackaged attempt to pass the same harmful policies that Ohioans and others already rejected when Senate Bill 83 failed in the last General Assembly.

Many groups have made their voices clear when they spoke out against Senate Bill 83. Students, faculty, business leaders, parents and concerned citizens from across the state and from out of state came together to oppose an unnecessary and politically motivated attack on higher education. The bill failed because it did not reflect the needs or desires of Ohio's students and educators. Yet, instead of listening to the public, legislators have repackaged the same restrictive policies into Senate Bill 1, disregarding the overwhelming opposition that led to Senate Bill 83's defeat.

If Ohio lawmakers are truly committed to improving education, they should focus on policies that strengthen our institutions, not ones that restrict academic freedom and force politically motivated oversight.

As an Illinois resident, we decided to pay a premium for out of state tuition because of the diverse programs and opportunities it allowed our child to undertake. She is a strong student leader who has been fighting against SB83 for the last 2 years and now in 2025 has to continue fighting against the ridiculous policies Ohio is trying to force into higher education. The people have already spoken, and they rejected this kind of interference in higher education. I urge you to listen to them once again and vote against Senate Bill 1.