HI SOUTHER	HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
	Witness Form
	Today's Date02-10-25
Name:Brad Steinmetz	
Address:3635 Olentangy Blvd	
Columbus, OH 43214	
Telephone:614-749-0240	
Organization Representing:self	
Testifying on Bill Number:	
Testimony: VerbalX Written Both	
Testifying As: ProponentX_ Opponent Interested Party	
Are you a Registered Lobbyist? YesX_ No	
Special Requests:	

Written testimony is a public record and may be posted on the Ohio Senate's website

I strongly oppose this overly vague legislation because it would gut Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion trainings and scholarships. DEI makes our educational systems and our country stronger. The bill would also force colleges and universities to ignore issues like climate change, DEI, abortion, and any other topic the government could consider controversial. Because the language is so broad, virtually any topic today could be the subject of "political controversy," and be banned from classroom discussion. Educational institutions are exactly the right place for these topics to be discussed and considered. This bill's insistence on "intellectual diversity" would have schools teach as much about the flat earth theory as actual science. Education must be protected from the corrupting influence of government interference and obstruction. The goal of schools and universities is to seek and share knowledge, not bow to politics.