

February 10, 2025

SB 1 Opponent Testimony

Chair Roegner and members of the Ohio Senate Higher Education Committee. Thank you for allowing me to testify today in opposition to SB 1. My name is Angela Linville and I work at Tri-C as a coordinator for 2 years. SB 1 is an extremely dangerous piece of legislation that would harm not only workers but also students and communities.

SB 1 includes untenable mandates and provisions that would exacerbate students' learning environments, as well as the working conditions for faculty and staff. Several mandates directly undermine workers' collective bargaining rights, including faculty's right to strike and the prohibition of certain topics from mandatory collective bargaining. As a public sector worker, any attack on ORC 4117 constitutes an attack on all public sector workers. These attacks are no different from the ones the State Legislature attempted in SB5 in 2011. Ohioans have clearly expressed their support for workers' rights and our ability to collectively bargain without government interference, which is what SB 1 is attempting to do.

None of the unfunded mandates in SB1 would advance higher education. It does nothing to address student hunger or working conditions of staff like myself.

SB 1 is bad for workers, bad for students, and bad for Ohio. It would not achieve its goal of promoting free speech and ensuring that our institutions are inclusive of all ideas; instead, it would silence these ideas and introduce unnecessary government interference into institutions that already function as incubators of innovation and marketplaces of diverse thought.

Thank you,

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