

10 February 2025

Dear Chair Roegner and Member Wehner,

Good morning. I am a faculty member teaching interior design at Kent State University College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

I am strongly opposed to the passage of SB1. As I am sure you're receiving many communications about this bill, I'd like to make just a few brief points to explain my opposition:

1. This bill limits my freedom as a citizen.

Prohibit my right to organize with my fellow citizens, bargain with my employer, and strike (if need-be) is an unjust usurpation of my freedom as an American.

2. This bill will harm Ohio by harming our universities

Our universities have been built from the work of generations. They are powerful engines of economic development for the State and represent hope for the future. Passing this bill will damage this precious inheritance and impoverish the future.

3. Government mandated speech is always wrong in a free society

Government mandates on ideas and speech didn't work out well in the USSR, or now in North Korea or Iran. The governments of free people do not dictate what free people can read, think, or say.

4. We need less bureaucracy, not more.

This bill will intrusively meddle in the workings of universities, requiring the creation of many new layers of forms, bureaucrats, and useless administrators. This will be a colossal and demoralizing waste of time & resources. I vote for government officials who work to limit state power, not amplify it.

The work of educating Ohio's young people is a precious, daily struggle. I've been engaged in this work for decades and proudly count my victories (and try to learn from my mistakes). If you've doubts about the wisdom of what I do, or the efficacy of our programs, **I invite you - encourage you - to please come join me in my classroom. I would be pleased to welcome any member of your committee to walk with me for an afternoon.** The young people of Ohio are dynamic and promising, and their educators at Kent State University need most of all your support, and the space to continue to do our excellent work.

Thank you for accepting my testimony to the committee. My witness slip is attached below.

With best wishes,

Ronn

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