

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Wayne Schneider. I am a Kent resident and a retiree from Kent State University. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

One of my roles as Director of Institutional Research at Kent State University was the reporting of statistics on student success – the key one being graduation rates. Without state interference, faculty and staff, working together, have been able to improve the Kent Campus four year graduation rate to 49.9% from 21.1% back in 2000 an **increase of 28.8%**. With an incoming class of around 4,000 students, this means that 1,152 more students each year are GRADUATING ON TIME!!

Union faculty worked with staff to bring about this huge improvement in student success, saving students, parents and the state money.

They also worked together to make Kent State a great place to work. KSU received recognition as “A Great Place to Work” from the Chronical of Higher Education 11 times. Again, without state interference, KSU received recognition in the areas of Compensation and Benefits; Confidence in Senior Leadership; Shared Governance; Faculty Experience; and Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging.

Kent State University has worked to do what is best for its students, faculty and staff. The contents of SB1 and HB6 undermine the success KSU has achieved, without any clear benefit.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this unnecessary and costly bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.