

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 Laurine Crowther. I am a retired teacher, a mother and a grandmother. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

Thirty years in the classroom taught me that the most vulnerable students need extra guidance. Banning diversity policies and programs would remove that guidance. Eliminating teachers' rights to determine class content and to help advocate for themselves as workers will not strengthen Ohio colleges and universities.

I would not want to enroll or teach in a school where SB 1 restrictions were applied. Passage of SB 1 will cost Ohio a large percentage of our best and brightest students and professors, as they find more fulfilling educations and careers in other states where learning takes priority.

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.