

Testimony of Alyssa Cain, BSN RN
Before the Senate Higher Education Committee
Senator Kristina Roegner, Chair
February 9th, 2025

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Ingram, and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Alyssa Cain, and I am a registered nurse in Ohio and graduate of Bowling Green State University as well as the University of Toledo. I do not represent these universities, but rather am submitting testimony as a private citizen in opposition to Senate Bill 1.

I am troubled by the contents of this bill that would prohibit diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) material at institutions, and would require them to implement a range of disciplinary sanctions for any employee who authorizes or engages in DEI training. I value DEI as an important part of higher education.

The section on broad restrictions on relationships with China serves no specific academic purpose and I am opposed to its inclusion in this bill.

As a union registered nurse, I am strongly opposed to the inclusion of full-time faculty to a list of state employees that are prohibited from striking. Strong labor unions are the backbone of many public Ohio institutions, and bans on striking are an attempt to cripple collective bargaining.

Thank you for your time.

Alyssa Cain