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Senator Kristina Roegner
Senate Higher Ed. Committee Chair

Dear Senator Roegner,

I am writing to you today as a concerned Ohio citizen and business leader. As a citizen and businessperson, I have a vested interest in supporting and ensuring Ohio's higher educational institutions can educate people to be ready for everything they will face in today's work environment.

Given this, I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 1. This bill or others like it will have major negative impacts on Ohio and Ohio's ability to educate.

First, it will cause our institutions to remove key information that is required for students to think critically. This is not about liberal or conservative ethos. This is about helping our young people learn how to hear different opinions and form an opinion *of their own* by hearing all sides. Censorship in the classroom is never a good thing.

Second, our best students will be much more likely to leave Ohio for an education if our institutions are crippled by this legislation. Once gone, many are unlikely to come back. Few people I knew who left for schools out-of-state returned to Ohio. If programs that students want close or are seriously limited, those students will leave and never return.

Finally, bills like make Ohio look backward, focused on all the wrong things. We need to focus on our infrastructure, helping our businesses thrive in a challenging global environment, and to support our firefighters, police, and veterans. Bills like this, especially when they are the first matter before the Senate, are ridiculous and humiliate all Ohio citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Matthew Bakaitis