

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

My name is Jeanne Marie Stumpf-Carome. I am an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Kent State University, Geauga Campus, where I have taught anthropology and sociology courses for thirty years. I do not stand for Kent State University but rather give testimony as a private citizen in opposition to Senate Bill 1.

One of the Great State of Ohio's most important economic and social assets is our institutions of higher education. It has been my privilege to pass on my own education to Ohio's students. Based on my own graduation *summa cum laude*, three advanced degrees and my honor as a Fulbright scholar, I am a happy to pay back and pay forward here in Ohio.

I have looked to instill the skills of critical thinking that mark our competitive advantage in the world. Critical thinking is unfettered by any special interest or ideology. It is the pathway to scientific and social advancements to our better future, to their better future.

As an attack on academic freedom and collective bargaining, Senate Bill 1 will undermine quality higher education for Ohio's students. It will hurt Ohio's ability to compete in an unknown future world of our young peoples' making.

In my travels in thirty-three countries, I am exposed to the social and economic powers of China, Russia, Japan, Singapore, Great Britain, the African continent and the Americas. Our competitive advantage is in the skills and creativity of our young people.

I oppose passage of SB 1. Gift our young people the skills to create a better future in a rapidly changing political, social and economic world with new environmental challenges.

Shackle faculty and you are shackling students, our best natural resource. Repeating our past is not their best path to their future. Success in Ohio is success for America and more so, the World.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my opposition to Senate Bill 1.



Jeanne Marie Stumpf-Carome, MA, MS, PhD

jstumpfc@kent.edu

Associate Professor Anthropology Kent State University, Geauga Campus and Twinsburg Academic Center.

Board of Directors, Fulbright Association of Northeastern Ohio.

Connie Townsend Ford Innovative Teaching Fellow, Cleveland Museum of Art.