

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 Robert Mora. I am an Ohio State University alum and an adjunct professor. I run my own design agency here in Ohio and understand the importance of higher education. As an immigrant to this country, my parents instilled in me the belief that success in life is achieved through higher education.

I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6. The primary reason for my opposition is my professional field of work as a Industrial Design Engineer in the field of R&D. Research and development are critical to the success of innovation. Innovation drives our world forward, creating new and life-saving technologies and methods, and solving some of the biggest problems we face now and in the future with solutions grounded in sound science and facts. Studies have shown that true innovation thrives in diverse groups of individuals working together, bringing different walks of life, religions, cultures, and life experiences. When we, as a society, turn our backs on the diversity around us, we lose sight of the true understanding of humanity and its goals.

I urge you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this very harmful bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I am now open to any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Robert Mora