

February 9, 2025

Dear 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 Theresa Martin. I am a wife, mother, and a member of the workforce. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6 for so many reasons.

This bill and its companion bill will stop conversations in classrooms that may come up naturally. If these conversations happen to cross some type of line, then what happens? Everyone's interpretation is going to be different for we all come from different economic backgrounds, ethnicities and home life.

Would it not be better to have open conversations and discussions regarding these types of "issues?" To learn from one another and hear the opinion of others from all different backgrounds in a safe environment?

How do you teach about historical events such as the Holocaust? Are professors not going to be able to correct students who don't believe it happened. What if that student was sitting next to a student whose great-grandparent had a numbered tattoo on their wrist? If a student states inaccurate information on a test or project, will the professor not be able to mark it wrong? What are we doing to our society as a whole? Where does it end? We should all be learning from our past mistakes, not burying them as a nation.

Having conversations inside and outside of the classroom, learning of other's backgrounds is what makes us well-rounded humans and accepting of all. Isn't that what we want for our children? For our country?

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Theresa Martin  
116 Lear Rd  
Avon Lake OH 44012