

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

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony. I did not have access to a printer, so my witness information slip was filled out online. My name is Adrienne Zylko. I am from North Canton Ohio, and I am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Engineering in computer engineering from the University of Cincinnati. I am strongly opposed to SB1 and its companion bill HB6.

There are many reasons that this bill should not be passed including people that are not professors deciding what will be taught, removing job protections for those professors, and removing the discussion of difficult topics from the college, the place they should be happening. But I will only discuss one tiny way this bill would impact me.

My parents are both engineers and I have planned on being an engineer for as long as I can remember. My parents and high school teachers have always supported my love of math and the sciences. Even with all that support being a woman in engineering is still difficult. In my major there is typically 2 or 3 women in a class of 30 and I have been the only woman in my field at 3 of my 4 jobs. I have enjoyed all these jobs, and I enjoy my classes, but it is hard. It is isolating and intimidating.

Through Women's centers and women led organizations at my college like Society of Women Engineers I have built confidence and community. Through these programs I have met other students that share information about the safety at companies, built skills for navigating the workplace, and further connected with my peers, both male and female. Not having these organizations and services would be detrimental to my education and my entry into the workplace.

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.