

February 9, 2025

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 Karen Gedeon. I am a media specialist for a public school in Summit County. I have worked with our children for over 13 years, often discussing college and career plans. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

SB1 and HB6 are blatant attacks on our education system. By threatening funding and attacking faculty and curriculum, the legislature is incorrectly telling Ohio residents that our colleges and universities are broken. We have some of the best (e.g. – Ohio State's Fisher College of Business), most affordable (e.g. – Kent State University) state universities in the country. SB1 & HB 1 will send our students to higher education outside of Ohio and the bulk of them will not return draining our state of a highly qualified work force. It will also not attract enough students from other states to offset our loss. These bills are shameless attempts of government overreach.

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

*Karen Gedeon*