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

Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony today. My name is Jeri Layer. I am an adjunct faculty member at Sinclair Community College in the Health Sciences program. I am strongly opposed to SB 1 and its companion bill HB 6.

This bill would disallow instructors from teaching scientific evidence about climate change. Climate change is scientifically proven to be factual. Climate change affects the health of the world. Climate change and antimicrobial resistance are two of the greatest threats to global health, causing the surge of superbugs. According to the US Centers for Disease Controls, there are roughly three million antimicrobial resistant infections each year, and more than 35,000 people die as a result.

This bill will also disallow instructors from teaching students in the medical field about cultural differences in beliefs, practices and expectations of people entering the health care system here in the United States. This could potentially cause malpractice suits for hospitals due to infringements of rights of patients that are culturally diverse.

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

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Jeri Layer
Adjunct Instructor/Health Sciences
Sinclair Community College