

February 10, 2025

Hello,

I am deeply concerned that there is another attempt in the legislature to pass a new version of SB 83: "The Higher Education Destruction Act," despite the massive public opposition. I ask that you do not support the new versions of the bill, which are SB 1 and HB 6.

I have been a historian and educator for twenty-one years. For fifteen of those years, I have been a historian and educator in Ohio.

The bill is an attack on academic freedom and an attempt to enforce a uniform ideology in Ohio's classrooms rather than allowing subject area experts to actually share their expertise on any number of topics with Ohio's students. University education should be a time of exploration and consideration – and sometimes confrontation with views that challenge what students imagine they know for certain about the world. The best education asks our students to imagine the world from perspectives beyond their own. Should these new bills pass, the limitations on what we might present in the classroom will stifle the kind of exploration that so many students find so exciting and so essential in their university education. Furthermore, that exploration is fundamental to developing an engaged and compassionate and informed citizenry.

Please allow the massive public response against SB 1 and HB 6 to influence your vote. Please represent constituents' views and values and wishes in your vote AGAINST SB 1 and HB 6.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Dunak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" being more prominent than the last name "Dunak".

Karen Dunak