

I oppose the House Bills 322 and 327.

In today's day and age, we need honest discussions related to America's racial history. Unless we confront the truth about America's racial history, have open and honest discussions, and we learn from the past, we will be unable to heal the wounds created by America's history of racial injustice.

And also, we must recognize the beautiful array of diversity that exists amongst us humans and enable space for discussions and education that allows sharing, learning, acceptance and most importantly respect.

Progress means confronting our past, embracing the knowledge gained and being willing to adapt and evolve.

House Bills 322 and 327 go in the face of such thinking and I as such I oppose these bills.

On a final note, As an economist I want to highlight an additional point. To help sustain and grow Ohio's economy, our number one challenge is workforce. We need to not only grow a vibrant and diverse talent pool, but we must also attract talent back to Ohio. House Bills like these, create a narrative of the belief systems of the people of Ohio as being myopic and parochial. They create an additional barrier for those who may consider relocating. House Bills like these are incredibly short sighted and will be injurious to Ohio's long term economic prospects.

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