

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 09/20/2021

Name: Minyu Liu

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position>Title: _____

Address: 4 Coventry Ln

City: Athens State: OH Zip: 45701

Best Contact Telephone: 7408186831 Email: minyu.chen.perosnal@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list?
No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB 322

Specific Issue: _____

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? Written testimony only

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I oppose HB 322.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

Dear Chairman Wiggam, Vice-Chairwoman John, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the State and Local Government Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on House Bill 322 today. My name is Minyu Liu, and I am a concerned parent of students in the Athens City School District. I am writing to express my strong opposition against House Bill 322, which seeks to regulate curriculum and instruction at an unprecedented level to suppress racism and sexism related discussions in K-12 schools.

HB 322 forbids teachers from discussing “current events” unless they “explore such issues from diverse and contending perspectives”. It also regulates school districts training to the extent that teachers are not allowed opportunities to learn how to properly handle different ideas and discussions related to racism and sexism.

Dialogues around current and historical events make up an important part of learning in public schools and have always benefited students with the essential skills needed in future workplaces. When I think about my child’s education, I want him to be prepared to engage in informed and respectful discussions about difficult topics. I also want my child’s teachers to have the proper training to effectively facilitate those discussions. Everyone deserves that academic freedom and opportunity without having to worry about breaching any laws. Moreover, racism and sexism are real issues in our society and will not disappear simply because no one talks about them.

I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 322, which could lead to unintended consequences of government censorship and thus strip the opportunities from students learning important topics and discussion skills that are essential for their future success.

Sincerely,

Minyu Liu, Athens Ohio on September 20, 2021