

**Opponent Testimony for HB8**  
**Education Committee**  
**10 December 2023**  
**Mary Klain**

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Education Committee,

My name is Mary Klain, my pronouns are she/her. I am a lifelong Ohio resident who is extremely distressed about the trajectory most of the legislation in Ohio is currently taking. HB8 is one of the most concerning bills moving through the Statehouse.

I'm certain you've received other testimony that is more eloquently written and that contains specific examples and citations of why this bill is bad for Ohio students and educators. What I have to offer you is my experience as a parent of 5 kids. As adults, I know absolutely, our job is to support our youth. We can do this by respecting their autonomy and privacy. HB8 does the exact opposite; it puts teachers and school staff in the terrible position of being informants and tattletales. Deliberately creating that dynamic in our schools benefits no one.

All Ohioans deserve to be treated with dignity! Vote NO on HB8!  
Mary Klain