

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

S.R. 2021/2022 – 03

**A Resolution Formally Opposing Ohio House Bill 322 and Ohio House Bill 327 and
Advocating for Free and Honest Education**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

Date:

Authored by:

Nolan McHugh, Internal Affairs Chair, **Arianna Bustos**, Director of Campus Workers, **Ty
Jennings**, BGSU Student

Sponsored by:

Zachary Noesen, Academic Affairs Chair

[Approval date by Senate goes here]

Approved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body, and prepared for the presentation to
the president of the Undergraduate Student Government

[Approval date by President goes here]

Approved by the president of the Undergraduate Student Government, and so order into effect.

Gabriel Wagner
Speaker of the Senate

Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

S.R. 2021/2022 – 03

A Resolution Formally Opposing Ohio House Bill 322 and Ohio House Bill 327 and Advocating for Free and Honest Education

In the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Body here assembled,

1. **Whereas**, the Undergraduate Student Government represents the undergraduate student voice
2. at Bowling Green State University; and
3. **Whereas**, Bowling Green State University and the Undergraduate Student Government
4. aim to ensure all student voices are represented within the Senate; and
5. **Whereas**, standing in opposition to House Bills 322 and 327 is not a political stance, rather it
6. is an appeal to free and honest education in the state of Ohio on the issues of diversity, equity,
7. and inclusivity; and
8. **Whereas**, House Bills 322 and 327 unambiguously attempt to criminalize the teaching of
9. diversity, equity, and inclusivity education in a variety of ways, matters which are not up for
10. political debate due to these bills' hateful nature; and
11. **Whereas**, House Bill 322 reads “Sec. 3313.6029. No teacher shall be required by a policy of
12. any state agency, school district, or school administration to affirm a belief in the systemic
13. nature of racism”; and
14. **Whereas**, issues of racism undeniably exist and have residual impacts in systemic ways,
15. such as the negative impacts felt by people of color due to segregation and Jim Crow laws,
16. discrimination in policing, hiring, lending, and housing of people of color, redlining, racial
17. gerrymandering, and many other instances of systemic racism; and
18. **Whereas**, House Bill 327¹ threatens to withhold essential state funding from public schools
19. for merely teaching history from various and diverse perspectives, such as the perspective of
20. marginalized people; and

¹ [H.B. 327](#)

21. **Whereas**, withholding money from already underfunded public schools will only serve to
22. further disadvantage students from marginalized communities who endeavor to learn their
23. own history and correct the wrongs which they have been dealt; and

24. **Whereas**, House Bill 322 includes language which enables teachers or administrators to
25. refuse to affirm the “fluidity or multiplicity of gender”, effectively extending legal
26. protections to adults in positions of power over LGBTQ+ students to perpetuate
27. gender-based discrimination; and

28 **Whereas**, House Bill 322² and House Bill 327 deny BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People
29. of Color) K-12 students the educational right to liberate themselves through courses such as
30. Social Studies and English Literature in a school environment; and

31. **Whereas**, House Bill 322 (Sec. 3313.6027) restricts inclusive teaching practices by
32. prohibiting requiring, making part of a course, or giving course grading or credit for
33. “Any practicum, action project, or similar activity that involves social or public policy
34. advocacy” (255-256), meaning a student could not create a project advocating for a
35. particular political stance after conducting academic research using scholarly sources; and

36. **Whereas**, House Bill 327 prohibits K-12 students from critically engaging with “divisive
37. concepts”, a deliberately vague phrase that would greatly restrict students from partaking in
38. open and respectful discourse in a classroom setting on a variety of “divisive concepts”:
39. “(B)(1) No school district shall teach, instruct, or train any divisive concepts (54-55)”; and

40. **Whereas**, House Bill 322 would prohibit any school district from making it a requirement of
41. Social Studies curriculum “...to discuss current events or widely debated and currently
42. controversial issues of public policy or social affairs.”, an action which would counteract the
43. purpose of a robust social studies education, which is to prepare informed, civically-engaged,
44. justice-oriented citizens to participate within our democracy; and

45. **Whereas**, the League of Women Voters of Ohio strongly opposes these bills, “because they
46. are an attack on honesty in the classroom.”³; and

47. **Whereas**, the Ohio Education Association also condemns these bills, with President Scott
48. DiMauro lamenting that he “is disturbed, disappointed, and disheartened by recent efforts to

² [H.B. 322](#)

³ [League of Women Voters of Ohio](#)

49. white-out American history by hiding the truth from Ohio’s children – depriving them of the
50. world-class, truth-based education they deserve”⁴; and

51. **Whereas**, the Ohio Council for the Social Studies, too, is firmly opposed to these bills, citing
52. the bills’ prohibition of teaching or training staff on “divisive concepts”, withholding of state
53. funding for doing so, and many other transgressions; and

54. **Whereas**, the Ohio Academy of History⁵, a professional society of teachers, scholars, and
55. public historians also released a statement opposing the bills, emphasizing the need to
56. carefully study history from a variety of perspectives and sources, something which these
57. bills would greatly restrict; and

58. **Whereas**, the Ohio Student Government Association, a body which represents over 500,000
59. university students across the state, passed a resolution urging these bills to be voted down;
60. and

61. **Therefore, let it be resolved that**, the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling
62. Green State University urges all students and faculty to contact the Wood County Ohio
63. House Representative Haraz Ghanbari (Phone: (614) 466-8104), Email:
64. rep03@ohiohouse.gov) and/or District 08 Representative, including BGSU Firelands
65. Campus, D.J. Swearingin (Phone: (614) 644-6011, Email: rep89@ohiohouse.gov) and demand
66. that they vote down these measures; and

67. **Let it be Further Resolved**, the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling Green State
68. University calls for Bowling Green State University and its peer institutions to take active
69. measures to oppose these bills; and

70. **Let it be Further Resolved**, the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling Green State
71. University encourages students to contact Inclusive Culturally Responsive Educators (ICRE)
72. for training on delivering testimony against these bills as well as further education on the
73. bills themselves (Ty Jennings, President: tyshonj@bgsu.edu, Arianna Bustos, Vice President:
74. abustos@bgsu.edu)

75. **Let it be Further Resolved**, the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling Green State
76. University urges students, faculty, and staff to sign the petition entitled *Standing in*
77. *Opposition to House Bill 322 and House Bill 327*⁶, linked at the bottom of this page,
78. demanding these bills be voted down; and

⁴ [Ohio Education Association](#)

⁵ [Ohio Academy of History](#)

⁶ [Standing in Opposition to House Bill 322 and House Bill 327 Petition](#)

79. **Let it be Further Resolved**, the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling Green State
80. University urges that House Bill 322 and 327 be voted down in the Ohio House of
81. Representatives.

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

Passed by the Senate and ordered presented to the president of the Undergraduate Student Body for Approval or Veto.

Gabriel Wagner
Speaker of the Senate

I do hereby approve and order this legislation into effect.

Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government

I do hereby disapprove and order this legislation to be returned to the Senate.

Alexander Chiarelott
President of the Undergraduate Student Government
