

Youngstown State University

Ohio Faculty Council



YSU Resolution in Opposition to Senate Bill 24

(The Academic Senate at Youngstown State University approved the following resolution with one dissenting vote at a regular meeting on February 2, 2005.)

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24, also sometimes described as an "academic bill of rights," has been introduced into the 126th session of the Ohio General Assembly; and
WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24, if adopted into law, would impose serious and unnecessary restrictions on the methods of teaching, research, and grading used by college and university faculty; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24 contains language so vague as to invite frivolous and unwarranted challenges to practically every aspect of university life; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24 imposes a chilling redefinition of academic freedom by insisting that instructors not introduce controversial matter into the classroom on a "persistent" basis; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24 is superfluous because the student rights that it purports to guarantee are already protected by the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, by other university policies, and by the Ohio and United States Constitutions; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 24, although called an "academic bill of rights" is actually a bill of restrictions, none of which is necessary, and none of which is in furtherance of the aims of higher education in this or any State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University vigorously opposes Senate Bill 24, both in spirit and in substance;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the Ohio Faculty Council and to the Academic Senate or similar body of every institution of higher education within Ohio.

Adopted 2/2/2005
