



For Immediate Release

January 22, 2025

OACC Statement on Ohio's Higher Education Reform Bill (Senate Bill 1)

“As a top workforce partner for Ohio employers and the best education value for students, Ohio’s community colleges commend the transparent and collaborative process that helped shape SB 83,” said Avi Zaffini, president and CEO of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges. “We look forward to continuing to work with Chairs Cirino, Young and Roegner to advance their goals of providing more Ohioans with access to high-quality, affordable postsecondary education.

During his tenure in the Ohio Senate, Senator Cirino has demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening Ohio’s higher education system. As a former community college trustee, he brings valuable insight into the challenges and opportunities our institutions face. Over the past two years, he has worked closely with us to refine this legislation, ensuring it better aligns with the operational needs of our colleges. Throughout this process, we have witnessed his genuine dedication to student success.

We are fortunate to have leaders who deeply value higher education, recognize the vital role our colleges play in Ohio’s future, and understand our impact on the success of more than 1,000 workforce partners across the state. We are committed to working with our partners in the General Assembly to help advance Ohio’s higher education system and help more students get the training, credentials, and degrees they need to succeed.”

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