

This bill is a clear and present danger to the independence and impartiality of the academe. It is a threat to the freedom of thought and expression – the very core of academic discourse. It is the elevation of politics over principle, an act that would create demigods on a power-high all across our university systems. What does that help? What problem does that solve? Nothing! Rather, it creates opportunities for the abuse of power by those appointed to be the heads of these institutions. With unlimited, Godlike power in the hands of individuals like that, there is no accountability, and that creates an incentive to abuse that power in pursuit of settling scores and targeting perceived political opponents, rather than focusing on promoting the good of the institution. This is a step in the wrong direction, on a very dangerous slope. Why is there a need to create dictators and dictators whose decisions cannot be questioned or subjected to the demands of accountability? Why do we need despots leading our Universities and Colleges? Let's vote this bill down. Let us defend democracy and say "No" to authoritarianism.