

## **Testimony Against House Bill 1**

**Submitted by Caixia Jin**

**Testifying as Opponent**

**May 18, 2025**

Good afternoon, Chair and members of the Public Safety Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

My name is Caixia Jin, a US citizen and I am here to strongly oppose House Bill H.B.1.

The greatness of this country lies in the contributions of millions of immigrants over the past 250 years. Immigrants are the soul of America. I work in the Legal Department at a U.S.-based company that was established as a result of foreign direct investment that revitalized the local economy and created over 3,000 American jobs. My responsibilities include supporting the visa and green card applications for talented foreign professionals who contribute to our company's innovation and growth. I see firsthand how lengthy and complex the process can be for individuals seeking legal work and immigration status through visas and green cards, taking several years, sometimes up to a decade.

Despite these challenges, I also witness how hard our visa and green card holders work, contributing tirelessly to our company, the local economy, and the prosperity of Ohio. They stand alongside U.S. citizens who are either immigrants themselves or descendants of immigrants.

If our business had to shut down because of this bill, I can't even imagine the devastation it would cause to thousands of workers losing their jobs. House Bill H.B.1 threatens not only individual livelihoods but also the strength of Ohio's economy.

The dedication of international students, researchers, entrepreneurs, and workers have generated billions for Ohio's institutions and industries. But this bill sends the wrong message to global talent and investors who see Ohio as a place to study, build, and innovate.

We all strive for the American Dream. But if H.B.1 passes, it will unfairly target individuals based on their national origin, not just visa holders but also American permanent residents. Even U.S. citizens like myself could feel the effects, as the bill fosters racial profiling and housing discrimination. This divisive approach will harm our communities for generations to come.

By restricting land ownership based on nationality, H.B.1 undermines the very values that make Ohio strong. We want a state and a nation that is united, fair, and welcoming.

Our founding fathers declared that "all men are created equal." Let's live up to that principle by treating everyone equally, regardless of where they come from. Let's keep Ohio a place where everyone, no matter their race or origin, can build a future.

I urge you to vote against House Bill H.B.1. Let's build a future where we can proudly say that America remains a land where everyone is treated equally.

Thank you for your time and consideration.