

## **Opponent Testimony for House Bill 1**

**Submitted by: Neal Xu**

**Testifying as Opponent**

Chair Abrams, Vice-Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas and Members of the Ohio House Public Safety Committee

My name is Neal Xu, I live in Dublin, and I am asking this committee to oppose House Bill 1 which unfairly targets immigrant communities under the pretense of national security.

Immigrants are the backbone of the American story, right? The promise of a better life through honest hard work and dedication. And now this bill seeks to arbitrarily deny people the rewards of their hard work by not letting them own land. Should what many consider the American dream, the dream of home ownership, be completely denied because of their citizenship? If you ask me, that seems pretty unfair.

As a country that celebrates freedom, we shouldn't have to deal with arbitrary government laws stopping us from doing what we want to do, which in this case, is simply just owning a home. If your home ownership isn't threatening national security, how come this time it's different?

The cycle of people who got to America first marginalizing those who got here later needs to stop, and you help put a stop to it here. Say, if YOU were someone in the future who came to Ohio and were looking to settle down and own a home but were denied by this potential law, that would be pretty upsetting for you, wouldn't it be? Came all this way for the promise of freedom, just to be denied by the government.

Please vote NO on House Bill 1, for the sake of our freedoms. If freedoms aren't universal, they stop becoming freedoms and start becoming privileges. Thank you.