

## **Testimony Against House Bill 1**

**Submitted by: (James)**

**Testifying as an Opponent**

May 18, 2025

Dear Chair Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas and members of the House Public Safety Committee,

My name is James. I live in Columbus, Ohio. I am an Ohioan, and I am asking this committee to oppose House Bill 1 which unfairly targets immigrant communities under the pretense of national security. These bills revive the discriminatory history of Alien Land Laws, which have been ruled unconstitutional and have long been used to suppress Asian, Muslim and immigrant communities. By restricting land ownership based on nationality, H.B. 1 fosters racial profiling and discourages immigrants from contributing to Ohio's economy. Furthermore, they may violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and the Fair Housing Act of 1968, opening the state to costly litigation. I urge you to vote NO on House Bill 1 to ensure Ohio remains a welcoming state for all its residents.

Sincerely,

James