

Opponent Testimony on Ohio House Bill 1
Before the Ohio House Public Safety Committee
Presented by Jianwei Sun
Cincinnati OH

Chairman Abrams, Vice Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Jianwei Sun. I'm a longtime community volunteer, a HAM radio operator, and someone who was trusted with the responsibility to activate the Emergency Operations Center for the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin back in 2014. I'm here today to respectfully express my strong opposition to House Bill 1.

This bill seeks to restrict property ownership for individuals and entities linked to nations labeled as "foreign adversaries," including China, Iran, and others. While the stated intent is national security, the real-world effect is racial profiling—treating entire groups of people as suspects based on ancestry rather than action.

I want to direct a portion of this testimony to one of you in particular—a member of this committee who served our country as an officer in the United States Air Force, specifically in drone operations.

Your background gives you a unique understanding of **precision, target discrimination**, and the enormous weight of making decisions that can impact lives and global stability. You know that in your field, vague assumptions and broad generalizations are dangerous. Every operation requires evidence, intelligence, and a focused objective. You don't authorize a strike on a village because someone once traveled through it. You don't target a location just because it sounds foreign. That level of care is essential to military ethics and effectiveness.

And yet HB1 abandons that discipline.

This bill casts suspicion on entire communities—people who may have lived in Ohio for decades, paid taxes, raised families, and never broken a law—simply because they were born in or have ties to a country on a list. Some of these individuals are green card holders, students, or even someone who has initiated the process to be an American citizen.

I've worked in emergency communications. When the sirens go off, no one asks your country of origin before helping you. Our safety systems are built on trust, coordination, and the assumption that all residents deserve protection. HB1 undermines that trust.

It's also a step onto a slippery slope:

- Today it's Iran and China. Tomorrow it could be another nation during a geopolitical shift.
- Where does this stop? Who defines the threat, and what criteria make someone "foreign" enough to lose their rights?

I urge you to think about what we're really protecting here. Is it land, or is it liberty? Security, or equality?

As someone who respects national security, I can tell you that HB1 doesn't make us safer. It makes us smaller—more suspicious of one another, less united, and more willing to erode civil rights in the name of fear.

I urge you to reject this bill. Let's make policy with the same precision, discipline, and integrity that our armed forces demand on the battlefield. That is how we truly serve and protect.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our country.

Respectfully,
Jianwei Sun