Testimony Against Substitute H.B. 1
Submitted by: Asian American Coalition of Ohio
Testifying as Opponent

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to the substitute version of House Bill 1 passed by the committee on November 19, 2025. My name is Yumin Yin, and I live in Broadview Heights, Ohio. **As President of the Asian American Coalition of Ohio (AACO)**, I am asking this committee to oppose the HB 1 Sub-bill.

I strongly oppose the sub-bill because it would prohibit immigrants from owning property within ten miles of an extremely broad list of so-called "critical infrastructure."

This definition is so expansive that it effectively includes nearly every essential utility and communications system in the state — electrical grids, telecommunications lines, water and sewer systems, fiber-optic networks, and radio and television facilities. Such an overly broad restriction represents an unprecedented level of government overreach.

Although the sub-bill exempts green card holders and military personnel, it still targets law-abiding immigrants and long-time residents solely based on their nationality. This includes international workers and students who live, study, and contribute to Ohio's economy and communities. **When I graduated from Case Western Reserve University in 1997, I found a job as a bridge engineer in Ohio. I have been a bridge engineer for the past 29 years helping to build the critical infrastructure in Ohio. Even though I became a US Citizen in 2008, I bought my first house in 1999 before I got my green card (in 2003).**

HB 1 would also harm Ohio's economic competitiveness. It sends a chilling message to global talent and investment at a time when our state should be attracting innovation, research, and economic growth. It could discourage investment, drive away skilled professionals, and complicate ordinary real-estate transactions.

If there are legitimate national security concerns, they should be addressed through evidence-based reviews of genuinely risky transactions — not through sweeping bans that unfairly single out people based on where they come from.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote **NO on Substitute HB 1**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.