

Senate Bill 88 Interested Party Testimony Senate General Government Committee April 29th, 2025 Stephanie Keinath, Executive Vice President Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

Good afternoon, Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit interested party testimony regarding Senate Bill 88 today. My name is Stephanie Keinath and I am the Executive Vice President for the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. As the leading voice of business in the Dayton region, the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce represents over 2200 member businesses across fourteen counties in southwest Ohio.

It is on behalf of these members that I am testifying an interested party on Senate Bill 88, sponsored by Sen. Terry Johnson. I appreciate and respect the legislation's intent to protect our state from foreign adversaries and support national security, especially as it is related to military installations throughout the state. However, I am concerned that while given the national security intent of the bill, the legislation as written today could have unintended impacts on our region's workers, businesses and communities, as well as other manufacturers across Ohio who rely on products manufactured in the Dayton area.

Senate Bill 88 would force Ohio companies whose owners are headquartered in certain foreign countries to either shut down or completely divest the facilities they own in Ohio. It represents a significant and unprecedented government involvement that not only impacts business operations but also the very ownership of a private business on private property. This legislation brings with it direct and indirect employment, economic, tax revenue and supply chain impacts.

Ohio is experiencing a manufacturing renaissance. The world recognizes our state's advantages—our skilled manufacturing workforce, strong work ethic, excellent training programs, well developed infrastructure and proximity to half the country's population in a day's drive. As more manufacturers seek to grow in the U.S., we want them to locate in Ohio and in the Dayton region.

Fuyao Glass America (FGA) located in Moraine, a suburb of Dayton. FGA is the world's largest auto glass maker and the largest supplier of auto glass to U.S. car makers, as well as Ohio's car makers. After General Motors shuttered its Moraine plant in 2008, FGA received \$6.6 million in economic development incentives from JobsOhio to invest more than \$1 billion in their new Moraine, Ohio plant, creating 3,000 jobs, revitalizing a community and breathing new life into Dayton's local manufacturing base. FGA now supplies glass for every Jeep vehicle produced in Toledo, glass for Honda's Ohio-made vehicles in Marysville and East Liberty and numerous vehicles produced by General Motors, Ford and BMW.



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FGA is a strategic partner for Ohio's automotive industry and a vital part of America's manufacturing resilience. Forcing the company—and companies like it—to shutdown and leave Ohio will hurt our state, our region, the families they employ and their Ohio supply chain. There is a solution. SB 88 should consider an amendment to grandfather existing Ohio companies so they can continue to exist in Ohio, grow, add Ohio jobs and contribute to our state's economic growth. This is important to not only preserve current Ohio jobs and but ensure that new ones can be added and communities can continue to benefit from the growth of Ohio manufacturers. Foreign companies that have already "onshored" to Ohio, invested in operations in Ohio and are employing Ohioans are part of our economic success story.

I urge our legislators to take a thoughtful, measured approach, one that ensures our national security, but also facilitates Ohio's ongoing economic development and protects existing Ohio jobs and manufacturing investments. Thank you for your time.