

## Written Testimony Opposing Senate Bill 88 –Enact the Ohio Property Protection Act

Zhenchao Wang  
5/23/2025

Dear Chair Roegner, Vice-Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear and members of the Senate General Government Committee,

My name is Zhenchao Wang, and I am writing to respectfully express my strong opposition to **Senate Bill 88**, also known as the **Ohio Property Protection Act**.

As a physician and an immigrant who chose to settle in Ohio for its inclusive communities and opportunities for meaningful contribution, I am deeply concerned about the discriminatory and far-reaching implications of this bill. While the stated intent may be to protect critical infrastructure, the actual impact is far broader and unjust—especially for law-abiding individuals and families like mine who came to this country to live, work, and serve.

Senate Bill 88 unfairly targets people **based solely on their country of origin**, treating everyone from certain countries as potential threats. This approach is not only unfair, it is profoundly un-American. It assumes guilt based on nationality rather than evaluating individual actions or intent. As a physician, I serve all communities equally. It is distressing to see legislation that **presumes entire populations are dangerous**, regardless of their values, contributions, or character.

The bill's language restricting ownership of property located **within 25 miles of critical infrastructure** would, in practice, cover much of the state of Ohio. This would effectively prevent many immigrants—especially those from Asian, Middle Eastern, and other targeted regions—from purchasing homes or establishing businesses across wide areas of the state. This undermines Ohio's economic vitality and sends a harmful message that these residents are not welcome.

I am also particularly alarmed by the proposal that **foreign nationals must sell property acquired in violation of the bill within two years**. This is tantamount to **forcing innocent families out of their homes**, even if they purchased them in good faith and had no malicious intent. It strips them of stability, dignity, and security—values that Ohio should protect.

This bill paints with an excessively broad brush. It is, in effect, **burning down the house to kill a rat**—causing deep harm to countless families while failing to narrowly target legitimate threats. If the goal is to prevent foreign interference near critical infrastructure, then the solution should be carefully focused and legally sound—not sweeping, racially coded, and constitutionally suspect.

Senate Bill 88 threatens to divide communities, sow fear among immigrants, and devalue Ohio's commitment to fairness, opportunity, and individual rights. It does not reflect the values I believe most Ohioans share—values of **inclusion, integrity, and equal protection under the law**.

I respectfully urge you to reject SB88 and pursue smarter, more focused strategies that protect national security **without sacrificing the rights and dignity** of the many Ohioans who live here, work here, and make this state stronger every day.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Zhenchao Wang**

Cincinnati, Ohio Resident and Practicing Physician