Testimony Against Senate Bill 88 Submitted by: Haicheng Chen Testifying as Opponent

May 24, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against Senate Bill 88. My name is Haicheng Chen, and I am a resident of Lewis Center, Ohio. I work as a research scientist at Meta Platforms, Inc., and I am also a homeowner and a parent of a young child.

I am deeply concerned that S.B. 88 unfairly targets individuals based on their national origin — specifically Chinese citizens — and would force people like me or members of my community to sell their homes within two years. This bill is discriminatory in nature and runs counter to fundamental American principles of fairness, due process, and equal protection under the law.

My family and I chose to build our life in Ohio because we value the safety, stability, and opportunity this state provides. But S.B. 88 sends a message that, no matter how peacefully we live or how much we contribute to our communities, we are seen first and foremost as threats — not neighbors. It is difficult to reconcile that with the ideals we teach our children about justice and equality.

I respectfully urge you to consider my testimony and vote NO on S.B. 88. Discriminating against peaceful residents based on their citizenship or ethnicity not only harms families like mine — it undermines the values that make Ohio a welcoming and free state. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Haicheng Chen Lewis Center, Ohio