

**Testimony Against Senate Bill 88**  
**Submitted by: Donald Hayashi**  
**Dayton Chapter Japanese American Citizens League**  
**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. I am Donald Hayashi, a Vandalia resident, and I am the President of the Dayton Chapter Japanese American Citizens League, which has served here in Ohio for over 75 years. We provide leadership in protecting the rights of all groups, eliminate stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, and promote cultural understanding.

My Grandfather came to the United States in 1904. After working for 5 years he married and started a family. He wanted to own property, but could not due to Alien Land Laws in California. At that time persons of Asian ancestry were not eligible to become naturalized American Citizens. When he had saved enough money to buy property the only way he was able to do so was to have his two young daughters, who were American Citizens by birth, purchase the land for him. It wasn't until 1952 that Japanese immigrants were allowed to become naturalized citizens. My grandparents became proud American citizens. He worked hard and made many contributions to improve the lives of many.

Senate Bill 88 restricts the rights of individuals from China and other countries to purchase or own property in the state of Ohio. This bill revives the shameful legacy of Alien Land Laws, which were used to deny property rights to Asian immigrants solely based on their race and country of origin. This bill violates constitutional protections contained in the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It promotes racial profiling and xenophobia. It will harm Ohio's economy and punish law-abiding residents. I urge you to reject Senate Bill 88.

I respectfully urge you to consider my testimony and to vote NO on S.B. 88. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald Hayashi  
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Vandalia, OH 45377