

Testimony Against Senate Bill 88

Submitted by Caixia Jin

Testifying as Opponent

May 25, 2025

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

My name is Caixia Jin, and I am a proud U.S. citizen. Thank you for the opportunity to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 88. I represent myself.

The greatness of our nation is built on the contributions of millions of immigrants over the past 250 years. Immigrants are the very soul of America. I work for a U.S.-based automobile company that was established through foreign direct investment. This company has revitalized the local economy and created over 3,000 American jobs. In my role, I support visa and green card applications for highly skilled professionals, particularly those on H-1B and L working visas.

I witness firsthand how long and complex the legal immigration process can be, often taking many years, even up to a decade, for individuals to receive permanent residency. Despite these challenges, I see how these professionals work tirelessly, contributing not only to our company but also to the local economy and the overall prosperity of Ohio. They stand shoulder to shoulder with American citizens, many of whom are immigrants or the descendants of immigrants themselves.

If legislation like SB88 were to pass, the consequences could be devastating. Businesses like ours could face uncertainty or be forced to close operations. Thousands of local workers, most of them U.S. citizens, could lose their jobs. This bill threatens not just individual livelihoods but the economic strength of Ohio as a whole.

The contributions of international students, researchers, entrepreneurs, and workers have generated billions in economic activity for Ohio's institutions and industries. But SB88 sends a harmful message to global talent and investors, that Ohio is not a welcoming place to live, work, or innovate.

Moreover, by targeting individuals based on their national origin, this bill imposes housing discrimination, racial profiling, and long-term damage to our communities. It doesn't just impact visa holders. It could also harm permanent residents and even U.S. citizens like myself by encouraging a culture of exclusion.

Our strength lies in our unity, our fairness, and our openness. Senate Bill 88 undermines those values. By restricting land ownership based on nationality, it contradicts the principles our nation was founded on, namely, that all people are created equal and deserve equal treatment under the law.

Let's keep Ohio a place where everyone, regardless of where they come from, has the opportunity to contribute, to grow, and to thrive. I respectfully urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill 88 in its entirety.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.