

Testimony Against Senate Bill 88

Submitted by: Xianliang Gong

Testifying as Opponent

May 25, 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 Xianliang Gong, and I am a resident of Columbus, Ohio, currently employed as an Applied Scientist at JPMorgan Chase.

I moved to Columbus last year as a recent graduate and former international student from China, eager to establish my career and build a future in Ohio. Senate Bill 88 deeply concerns me because it would unjustly restrict individuals like myself from fully participating in Ohio's economic growth and community development simply based on our nationality. Such a measure undermines the principles of fairness and inclusivity that attracted me to build my life here.

Like many other Chinese nationals, I chose Ohio because of its welcoming community, economic opportunities, and strong educational resources. Prohibiting property ownership based solely on nationality creates unnecessary divisions, harms our community relations, and sends a discouraging message to talented individuals considering making Ohio their home.

I respectfully urge you to consider the negative implications of this bill on individuals and families like mine who actively contribute to our local economy and communities. Please vote NO on Senate Bill 88.

Thank you again for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Xianliang Gong