

Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 88
Submitted by: Weiwen Long
Testifying as Opponent

May 25, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against Senate Bill 88 (SB88). My name is Weiwen Long. I live in Beavercreek Township, and has been an Ohioan for about 12 years. I am respectfully requesting this committee to oppose SB88.

I was born and grew up in China. I came to the US as a foreign student to pursue my graduate study in 1999. After obtaining my PhD degree in 2005, I performed a few years' postdoctoral fellowship training and then became an Assistant Professor at Wright State University (WSU) in Dayton in 2013. Since then, I have developed a successful career as a Professor with both teaching and scientific research at WSU and have been enjoying very much as a resident of Ohio. Beavercreek has been my home, the sweetest home I have ever had. Of note, our son, as a second-generation immigrant in the US, grew up in Beavercreek and now has becoming a bright and compassionate boy. He loves his School and has been a straight-A student. Following 5 years of cub scouts' fun activities and learning experience, he has recently become a Boy Scout of Troop 68 and aims to become an Eagle Scout.

As an immigrant and a US citizen, I fully understand and strongly support the Ohio government's lawful act(s) of protecting the national security and public safety in the State of Ohio. However, by restricting land and building property ownership based on the individual's nationality (or the origin of the country of birth), SB88 may not be a reliable and effective approach of protecting national security and public safety, but would foster racial profiling and discourage immigrants from contributing to Ohio's development and thriving. In particular, as initially an international student and now a Professor in a Public University, I am very concerned that this SB88 bill would have an enormous detrimental effect on attracting and retaining talents (young or senior) from other countries, including China. If there were such a legislation like SB88, I would have NOT been able to own a home, have a family, and develop a career as a College Professor that is highly beneficial to the Dayton community and the State of Ohio overall.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the House Public Safety Committee to consider my testimony and to vote NO on Senate Bill 88 to ensure Ohio remains a welcoming state for all its residents, which is essential for the further development and prosperity of Ohio.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Weiwen Long