

OPPONENT TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 88 — Ohio Property Protection Act

Peng Li

Chairwoman Roegner, Vice Chairwoman Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and other honorable members of the Senate General Government Committee,

My name is Peng Li, and I am an international Ph.D. student currently studying and living in Columbus, Ohio.

Although I do not own any property here, I am a law-abiding tenant who rents an apartment near my university. Senate Bill 88 deeply worries me—not because I plan to buy a house, but because it may unintentionally create uncertainty and fear even among those of us who are simply living here temporarily to pursue education and research.

As a student from China, I came to Ohio with the hope of contributing to society through study and service. I pay rent, follow the law, and participate in my community like any other resident. But SB88, as currently written, makes me feel like I could be treated differently simply because of my national origin.

I fully understand and respect the importance of protecting national security. However, I hope the committee will consider refining this bill to ensure that it does not unfairly affect individuals like me—international students who have no ties to foreign governments and are here only to learn and grow.

I respectfully urge you to consider adding reasonable exemptions for legal temporary residents such as students, workers, and researchers. We are not here to invest in land or pose any risk; we are simply trying to live peacefully while we study and contribute to the community around us.

Thank you very much for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
Peng Li