

Testimony Against Senate Bill 88
Submitted by: (your full name)
Testifying as Opponent

May 23, 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 Wei Li, a Hudson resident and I am a professor at Kent State University.

I came to pursue my master's degree in Washington State at the end of 1999. Due to my outstanding academic performance, my professors persuaded me to stay for my Ph.D. degree. Then, due to the shortage of university professors, three universities offered me a job when I graduated with my Ph.D. degree.

America is great due to the contributions of immigrants. Most of Chinese immigrants started as students in US, became permanent residents and finally US citizens. If Ohio wants to remain prosperous, Ohio needs the talents and foreign investments. That also means that Ohio needs to allow the foreigners who have the ability to pay to buy a property in Ohio.

The proposed HB1 and SB88 are the same as the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. These bills echo the Alien Land Laws of the early 20th century that denied Asians the right to own property based solely on race and national origin. These bills violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and violate core principles of American democracy by banning individuals from property ownership based on country of origin or immigration status.

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,

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