

## **Testimony Opposing SB88 and In Defense of Equal Protection and Ohio's Future**

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 Qi Fang, a USA citizen, and Senior engineer works at First Solar in Perrysburg Ohio, the largest solar company in northern America. I would like to share myself and my family stories to support my arguments against SB-88.

My family has been in western countries from China since 1989. My wife and me got our Ph.D. degrees from Germany. My wife Jun-Ying Zhang joined 3M company to get more than 50 US patents and went to First Solar company, invented plasma technique for solar panel production and got millions benefits. She was the best awards recipients in both 3M and First Solar. Unfortunately she passed away due to cancer. She got the best treatment in Cleveland Clinic, one doctor is from Argentina, another doctor from China. America's strength has not only come from the talents and workers of 3% of the world inhabitants who live here, but from attracting the best from anywhere in the world.

I worked at IBM Research center Albany for new chip-procedures, with state-of-the-art technology contribution, IBM got successful from 11nm to 5 nm chip-procedures. I joined First Solar from R&D to metrology as a sensor engineer. My son has been a doctor and the head of internal medicine in a Hawaii hospital.

From my family more than 30 years American Dream, we went through and long term H1 visa and green card, we then had fully hope. However, It was all impossible if this SB-88 was carried out 30 years ago! Today, I stand here to show my strongest opposition to SB88 because this bill will not protect our national security but instead risks reviving the long and violates constitutional protections. The bill likely contravenes the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and the Supremacy Clause, which prohibits states from enacting laws that conflict with federal immigration and foreign policy.

And SB-88 also violates the Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act of 1968, a cornerstone of civil rights legislation, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, or financing of housing based on national origin, race, or ethnicity. SB88 opens the door to discrimination not only against foreign nationals but also against U.S. citizens and lawful residents of Asian descent and immigrants from other countries.

Furthermore SB-88 promotes racial profiling and xenophobia. By singling out individuals based on national origin, this bill inflames racialized suspicion and encourage discrimination—not just against foreign nationals, but also against American citizens and permanent residents of Asian and immigrant backgrounds.

Thus, I respectfully ask you to reject SB88 in their entirety. Such bills do not reflect the spirit or interests of Ohio. Instead, we call for policies that promote security through inclusion, economic growth through global engagement, and justice through equal protection under the law. We stand in solidarity with all communities targeted by these measures and are committed to building a more just and united Ohio. Let us not repeat the mistakes of the past.

Sincerely,

Qi Fang, Ph.D.

3289 Sterlingwood Lane

Perrysburg, OH 43551