

Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 88

Testifying as Opponent

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and esteemed members of the Senate General Government Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

I respectfully urge you to oppose Senate Bill 88. While I understand the importance of national security and protecting critical infrastructure, this bill raises serious concerns about its unintended consequences—particularly its impact on Asian and immigrant communities in Ohio.

The broad language in the bill may lead to discriminatory practices and unjust profiling of lawful immigrants, many of whom are long-time residents contributing meaningfully to our society. These concerns are not just theoretical—they reflect the lived experiences of families and communities across our state.

This bill could also create economic harm by discouraging investment and participation from global talent and businesses, especially in areas where Ohio has worked hard to build international partnerships. Moreover, the chilling effect it may have on students, families, and professionals can weaken the social fabric of our communities and limit opportunities for our children.

We all want a safe and prosperous Ohio. But legislation that casts too wide a net risks creating fear and division, rather than safety and security.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to reconsider this bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to share my concerns.

Yongping Guo