

Opponent Testimony for SB88
Submitted by: Weiyanyu Chen
Testifying as Opponent

Chair Abrams, Vice-Chair Miller, Ranking Member Thomas and Members of the Ohio House Public Safety Committee

My name is Weiyanyu Chen, I am a concern resident live in Westerville, Ohio. I am asking this committee to oppose SB88 which unfairly targets immigrant communities under the pretense of national security. This bill revives the discriminatory history of Alien Land Laws, which have been ruled unconstitutional and have long been used to suppress Asian, Muslim and immigrant communities. SB88 encourages discriminations by singling out individuals based on national origin, promoting racial profiling and xenophobia. During times of division, scapegoating immigrants and communities of color distracts from real policy challenges. By restricting land ownership based on nationality, SB88 fosters racial profiling and discourages immigrants from contributing to Ohio's economy. Furthermore, it may violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and the Fair Housing Act of 1968, opening the state to costly litigation.

I urge you to vote NO on SB88 to ensure Ohio remains a welcoming state for all its residents. Thank you for your time.