

Testimony Against Senate Bill 88
Submitted by: (Qian Wen)
Testifying as Opponent

May 26, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Qian Wen. I live in West Chester Township and am a small business owner, a wife, a mother, and an active member of an Episcopal church. I am testifying in strong opposition to Senate Bill 88.

I came to the United States in 1997 as an international student, and over the past 28 years, I've built a life that I'm proud of. I now employ U.S. citizens at my company, contribute to the local economy, raise a family, and actively serve my community. My journey reflects what many call the American Dream.

Senate Bill 88 threatens to close the door on people like me. The bill would prohibit certain immigrants—regardless of their legal status or contributions—from participating fully in Ohio's civic and economic life. If this bill passes, it would limit opportunities for future immigrants who, like me, want to start businesses, create jobs, and contribute to their communities.

I know firsthand the challenges of being a first-generation immigrant. We work hard to learn the language, navigate the system, and integrate into society. But we also bring immense value. We are not outsiders—we are neighbors, business owners, taxpayers, and volunteers. Our children are part of Ohio's future.

I employ two local workers at my business and contribute significantly in taxes each year. I am also a member of the GoldSach 10K Small Business Network and contribute to charity drives through my church. Bills like SB 88 send a harmful message that our efforts are not welcome or recognized.

This legislation risks turning away the very people who are investing in Ohio's growth. Many of my peers—highly educated engineers, scientists, and healthcare professionals—are watching closely. If Ohio tells them they don't belong, they may choose to leave or never come.

I respectfully urge you to vote **NO** on S.B. 88. Please stand up for the values of fairness, opportunity, and community that make Ohio—and America—a place worth calling home.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Qian Wen