

Senate Bill 88 Opponent Testimony Senate General Government Committee May 27, 2025 Stephanie Keinath, Executive Vice President Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

Good afternoon, Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit opponent testimony regarding Senate Bill 88 today. My name is Stephanie Keinath and I am the Executive Vice President for the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. As the leading voice of business in the Dayton region, the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce represents over 2200 member businesses across fourteen counties in southwest Ohio.

It is on behalf of these members that I am testifying as an opponent on Senate Bill 88. I appreciate and respect the legislation's intent to protect our state from foreign adversaries and support national security, especially as it is related to military installations throughout the state. However, I am concerned that while given the national security intent of the bill, the legislation could have unintended impacts on Ohio's workforce, businesses and communities.

A core pillar of the work of the Dayton Chamber is to champion the growth of businesses in our state, whether by supporting business owners in their efforts to grow jobs, access capital, and identify supply chain opportunities, or by connecting businesses of all sizes to workforce & talent. We work directly with minority, women, veteran and economically disadvantaged businesses to grow jobs and investment across the Dayton region. In addition, we've worked with organizations and partners across the state to hire and integrate our immigrant and refugee talent into Ohio's workforce.

We are concerned that Senate Bill 88 could negatively impact diverse Ohio companies whose owners are headquartered in certain foreign countries, restrict their growth and prohibit future expansion opportunities in our state. SB 88 represents a significant and unprecedented government involvement that not only impacts business operations but also the very ownership of a private business on private property. In addition, the legislation could also have far reaching impacts on companies that work to attract top global talent to Ohio by restricting the opportunities for that talent to buy homes and build their lives here. It is clear that this legislation brings with it direct and indirect workforce and employment, economic, tax revenue and supply chain impacts that could derail Ohio's economic growth strategies.

Ohio is experiencing a manufacturing renaissance. The world recognizes our state's advantages—our skilled manufacturing workforce, strong work ethic, excellent training programs, well developed infrastructure and proximity to half the country's population in a day's drive. As more manufacturers seek to grow in the U.S., we want them to locate in Ohio and in the Dayton region.



Senate Bill 88 Opponent Testimony Senate General Government Committee May 27, 2025 Stephanie Keinath, Executive Vice President Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce

Fuyao Glass America (FGA) located in Moraine, a suburb of Dayton. FGA is the world's largest auto glass maker and the largest supplier of auto glass to U.S. car makers, as well as Ohio's car makers. After General Motors shuttered its Moraine plant in 2008, FGA received \$6.6 million in economic development incentives from JobsOhio to invest more than \$1 billion in their new Moraine, Ohio plant, creating 3,000 jobs, revitalizing a community and breathing new life into Dayton's local manufacturing base. FGA now supplies glass for every Jeep vehicle produced in Toledo, glass for Honda's Ohio-made vehicles in Marysville and East Liberty and numerous vehicles produced by General Motors, Ford and BMW.

FGA is a strategic partner for Ohio's automotive industry and a vital part of America's manufacturing resilience. Forcing the company—and companies like it—to restrict growth may ultimately drive them to leave Ohio, hurting our state, our region, the families they employ, as well as their robust Ohio supply chain. We want to ensure that we preserve current Ohio jobs but also ensure that new ones can be added and communities can continue to benefit from the growth of Ohio manufacturers. Foreign companies that have already "onshored" to Ohio, invested in operations in Ohio and are employing Ohioans are part of our economic success story.

I urge our legislators to take a thoughtful, measured approach, one that ensures our national security, but also facilitates Ohio's ongoing economic development and protects Ohio jobs and manufacturing investments. Thank you for your time.