

**Testimony Against Senate Bill 88**  
**Submitted by: Xinping Chen**  
**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 submit my written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 88.

My name is Xinping Chen. I currently live and work in Ohio under legal work status as an electrical and mechanical engineer, with over 25 years of professional experience. I am proud to use my skills to serve Ohio's industries and communities.

I came to the United States under political asylum after having taught engineering in schools overseas. I left my home country because I could no longer support or endure the politically enforced indoctrination of students. It is precisely because I believed in freedom of thought and individual dignity that I sought refuge in the U.S.—a nation built on the principle that people are not defined by the governments they flee.

Senate Bill 88 contradicts this American ideal. It assumes that individuals from certain countries are automatically loyal to foreign governments and should be treated with suspicion, regardless of their personal beliefs, actions, or legal status. That assumption goes against the very foundation of political asylum and the American values of fairness and individual liberty.

We must separate people from the politics of the regimes they leave behind. SB88 fails to do that. It does not give people like me—who have risked everything to live freely and contribute to American society—a fair chance. It casts blanket suspicion instead of assessing individuals based on their actions and merits.

We still have an opportunity to stop this bill. That is why I am speaking out—not just for myself, but for all those who hope to live peacefully, work hard, and contribute meaningfully to Ohio's future.

I respectfully urge the Senate General Government Committee to consider the real human cost of Senate Bill 88 and vote **NO**. Let us strengthen Ohio through inclusion, not exclusion.

Thank you for your time and for listening to my story.

Sincerely,  
Xinping Chen

Dayton, OH