

Testimony Against Senate Bill 88
Submitted by: Qingya Shu
Testifying as Opponent

May 26, 2025

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

I am testifying today to strongly oppose Senate Bill 88.

My name is Qingya Shu, and I live in Plain City, Ohio, with my husband and our two young children, ages five and one. My husband and I have been legal permanent residents since 2019. We recently moved from the Chicagoland to here; we love it here and are proud to call Ohio our home.

This bill threatens many ordinary and innocent families like mine, even though the bill is nominally motivated by national security. Because of my country of origin, the state may force my family to lose our home, despite the fact that we have followed every law and worked hard to establish a life here.

When I look at the maps of restricted areas, I wonder: where would we even be allowed to live? This bill is targeting us, the innocent individuals, as threats just because of our country of origin and identity.

Even worse, this bill conveys that we are not truly part of this state, which is painful. What does it mean to our children if we lose our home, are forced to move, and change schools? How can we explain to them? What does this mean to their future?

We chose to become Buckeyes and wish our children to grow up where they feel safe, accepted, and proud of who they are. My 5-year-old proudly thinks this is his home, his school, and his community. If the bill became a law, he would lose everything just because his parents were born in another country.

We are gravely panicked that this bill will lead to more discrimination, especially for Asian families and immigrants, and will make the next generation grow up feeling like outsiders in their own state.

Please do not let this happen. I respectfully ask you not to target us, the peaceful, law-abiding families like mine who simply want to live in peace and contribute to this community. Thank you for reading my testimony and considering the impact this bill could have on immigrant families and future generations of the Nation.

Sincerely,
Qingya Shu