

Opponent Testimony for Senate Bill 88

Submitted to the Ohio General Assembly

Chair, Vice Chair, Ranking Member, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent testimony on Senate Bill 88.

My name is Yuqi.

When I moved to Ohio in Nov., 2019, I didn't know I have found a place I could call home. Prior to the move, because of my job, I have been lived in Switzerland, Germany, and Chicago for a decade. Naturally, I assumed Ohio would be another short-term assignment — maybe two years. But soon, I fell in love with the sense of community, the quality of life, and the warmth of the people. Later on, I met my significant other in Ohio and we got married last summer. Life could not be better, as we are looking forward to build a young family together, and just begun the process of looking for our first home when news of SB88 broke.

This bill is deeply concerning to me, both personally and as a matter of principle. While I understand the intent may be framed around national security, SB88 effectively discriminates against individuals based solely on their country of origin. It targets law-abiding, hardworking residents like me who simply want to contribute to our communities, raise our families, and live in peace.

I respectfully challenge the Legislature, in the making of this policy, to consider the lives and well-being of ordinary people who came to Ohio to work hard and live equally. Policies like SB88 do not protect — they divide. They send a message that despite our efforts and commitment, we are not truly welcome. That message does not reflect the Ohio I've come to know and love.

This legislation also has broader implications for Ohio's future. It risks damaging the state's reputation as a place of opportunity and openness. It may discourage global talent and diverse families from putting down roots here. And perhaps most concerning of all, it sends the wrong signal to our children — that some people are less deserving because of where they come from.

I urge you to reject Senate Bill 88 and choose a path that reflects Ohio's highest values: fairness, inclusion, and community. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Yuqi Luo

Dublin, Ohio