

Open Letter

To the Honorable Members of the Texas Senate and House of Representatives,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

We, **a collective of Pastors, Elders, Deacons and other leaders at the Dallas Chinese Fellowship Church** are committed to the values of dignity, justice, and love for our neighbors (Matthew 22:39). We write to express our deep concern regarding SB 17 and similar bills that unfairly target individuals based on national origin.

While we understand the need to address legitimate national or state security concerns, we believe the measures of SB 17 go too far by broadly restricting legal immigrants from purchasing homes in Texas. This will negatively impact all legal visa holders of Chinese students (F1), young professionals (H1-B), and religious workers (R1), **many of whom are our fellow Christians, truth seekers, and even pastors.**

As Christians, we believe Texas's proudest values—freedom, opportunity, and neighborly compassion—are deeply rooted in Scripture. The Bible calls us to ‘act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God’ (Micah 6:8) and to welcome the stranger (Matthew 25:35). Our state's history was built by immigrants and pioneers who sought a better life, much like the biblical sojourners God commanded His people to protect (‘The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt.’ Leviticus 19:34). Measures in laws like SB 17 contradict these shared ideals by denying hardworking families the dignity of homeownership solely due to their nationality. Our faith calls us to stand with the marginalized and speak out against laws that foster division and fear, rather than unity and hope.

Our specific concerns with SB 17 include:

- 1. These Bills violate federal and Texas laws:** this bill contradicts both the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Texas state anti-discrimination laws. The Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment prohibits states from enacting laws that discriminate based on national origin or alienage. Additionally, Texas's own laws, including portions of the Texas Constitution, Texas Property Code and the Texas Labor Code, prohibit discrimination in housing and economic opportunities. These bills undermine these protections, creating conflict between state and federal law while reviving discriminatory practices reminiscent of past alien land laws struck down in 1965. If challenged, the law risks being invalidated as unconstitutional, exposing Texas to legal and economic repercussions.
- 2. These bills potentially institutionalize discrimination and fuel anti-Asian hate:** By singling out individuals from certain countries as inherent threats, laws like SB 17 perpetuate the same scapegoating we saw during the Chinese Exclusion Act and COVID-era attacks. The American Psychological Association warns that such policies ‘stigmatize entire communities,’ leading to real-world violence—a reality our Asian parishioners already fear

when strangers accuse them of 'stealing land' or being 'foreign agents', and when children racially harassed and bullied at school just because of their Asian appearance.

3. **The proposed SB 17 is unnecessary and redundant:** Existing federal and state frameworks are already in place to address national security concerns related to foreign ownership of critical assets, through Federal Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS) and the Lone Star Infrastructure Protection Act (LSIPA).

This is not patriotism; it is prejudice clothed in legality. Christ condemned those who 'strain out a gnat but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24)—focusing on minor risks while ignoring the greater sin of dehumanizing neighbors. If Texas truly values freedom, it must reject laws that codify racism under the guise of protection.

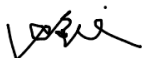
We urge you to:

- **Vote to oppose** SB 17 and similar discriminatory bills in their current form.
- **Amend the bill by removing the word “individuals”** and/or exclude legal visa holders from its scope.
- **Support alternative solutions** that address security concerns without penalizing innocent individuals.

Our church leaders stand ready to dialogue, pray, and work together for policies that protect both security and human dignity. We appreciate your service and hope you will consider our appeal.

In Christ's Name

From the following Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and other leaders of the Dallas Chinese Fellowship Church (www.dcf.org)

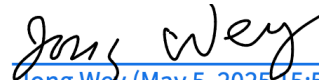


[King Tai Tie \(May 5, 2025 14:57 CDT\)](#)

Pastor King Tai Tie



Elder Fang Qiu



[Jong Wey \(May 5, 2025 15:56 CDT\)](#)

Elder Jong Wey

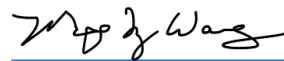


[Tinghui Li \(May 5, 2025 16:11 CDT\)](#)

Elder Tinghui Li



Pastor Sunny Kao



[Ming-jy Wang \(May 5, 2025 14:09 CDT\)](#)

Elder Ming-jy Wang



[Josh Aguas \(May 5, 2025 16:20 CDT\)](#)

Pastor Josh Aguas



[Sawng Thang \(May 5, 2025 15:01 CDT\)](#)

Pastor Sawng Thang



[Jutao Huang \(May 5, 2025 15:15 CDT\)](#)

Deacon Jutao Huang



[Yuchen Liang \(May 5, 2025 13:21 CDT\)](#)

Deacon PAUL LIANG



[Kenneth lao \(May 5, 2025 17:49 CDT\)](#)

Deacon Kenneth lao



[Yunfei Song \(May 5, 2025 14:26 CDT\)](#)

Deacon Yunfei Song



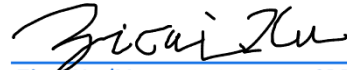
[lei tan \(May 5, 2025 13:37 CDT\)](#)

Deacon Lei Tan



[Jackie Da Pang \(May 5, 2025 13:27 CDT\)](#)

Deacon Jackie Pang



[Zicai Xu \(May 5, 2025 13:25 CDT\)](#)

Zicai Xu



[Dong wang \(May 5, 2025 13:23 CDT\)](#)

Dong Wang



[SHIHUI YANG \(May 5, 2025 13:49 CDT\)](#)

SHIHUI YANG



[Tina S. Song \(May 5, 2025 19:56 CDT\)](#)

Tina Shuangong Hsu Song



[Dongjie Cheng \(May 5, 2025 15:00 CDT\)](#)

Dongjie Cheng



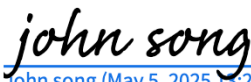
[Mary Ong \(May 5, 2025 14:38 CDT\)](#)

Mary Ong



[Dan Liu \(May 5, 2025 13:43 CDT\)](#)

Dan Liu



[John song \(May 5, 2025 13:22 CDT\)](#)

John Jianbin Song



[Yaosheng Simon Liu \(May 5, 2025 13:35 CDT\)](#)

Yaosheng Simon Liu



[Ronnie See \(May 5, 2025 17:18 CDT\)](#)

Ronnie See



[Xiang Gao \(May 5, 2025 14:25 CDT\)](#)

Xiang Gao



[Yiting Lin \(May 5, 2025 13:34 CDT\)](#)

Yiting Pamela Lin




[Ning So \(May 5, 2025 13:36 CDT\)](#)

Ning So



[Chelsea Zhang \(May 5, 2025 13:45 CDT\)](#)

Chelsea Zhang



[Charlie Liang \(May 5, 2025 17:43 CDT\)](#)

Charlie Liang



[Zhihong Guo \(May 5, 2025 16:49 CDT\)](#)

Zhihong Guo




[Lei Wu \(May 5, 2025 13:42 CDT\)](#)

Lei Wu




[Chun Lin \(May 5, 2025 13:56 CDT\)](#)

Chun Lin



[Bing Wang \(May 5, 2025 13:38 CDT\)](#)

Bing Wang



[Ethan Cao \(May 5, 2025 14:11 CDT\)](#)

Ethan Cao



[Meng Hong \(May 5, 2025 16:32 CDT\)](#)

Meng Hong



[Meng Ting \(May 5, 2025 16:42 CDT\)](#)

Meng Ting



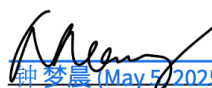
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May Chua



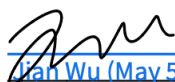
[Frank Zhao \(May 5, 2025 13:34 CDT\)](#)

Chunyou Zhao




[钟梦晨 \(May 5, 2025 13:57 CDT\)](#)

Mengchen Zhong



[Jian Wu \(May 5, 2025 13:37 CDT\)](#)

Jian Wu



[Meekeeyong \(May 5, 2025 17:18 CDT\)](#)

Mee-kee Yong



[Jean Hsia hsia \(May 5, 2025 17:16 CDT\)](#)

Jean Hsia



[wenliang tang \(May 5, 2025 13:35 CDT\)](#)

Wenliang Tang



[Wei Tang \(May 5, 2025 15:03 CDT\)](#)

Wei Tang



[Hongbing Lian \(May 5, 2025 14:28 CDT\)](#)

Hongbing Lian



[Ling Li \(May 5, 2025 16:55 CDT\)](#)

Ling Li



[Howard Liu \(May 5, 2025 15:15 PDT\)](#)

Howard Liu



[Sheen Kang \(May 5, 2025 15:35 CDT\)](#)

Sheen Kang



[Xinhe \(May 5, 2025 14:56 CDT\)](#)

Xin He



[ang li \(May 5, 2025 14:21 CDT\)](#)

Leo Li



[Meng Xu \(May 5, 2025 15:15 CDT\)](#)

Meng Xu



[Sin ming winnie Chan \(May 5, 2025 15:53 CDT\)](#)

Sin Ming Winnie Chan