

HB 1093 Talking Points

AAPI communities have historically experienced increases in harassment and sometimes violence related to international tension, competition, and immigration.

- In an eight month period during the height of COVID, Stop AAPI Hate received over 2,800 incident reports of hate across the U.S, with 32 hate incidents reported in Georgia.
 - The adoption of these new Alien land laws threaten to increase the harassment and assault of Asian people no matter their ethnicity or citizenship.
- After 9/11, many people experienced discrimination and violence even when they had no connection to foreign governments or countries.
- In 1982 two white men murdered Vincent Chin, a Chinese man in Michigan, out of anger against the Japanese car manufacturing industry.
- To go all the way back to the early 1900s, similar Alien Land Laws such as these were passed in California targeting Japanese farmers to bar them from property ownership. This was later struck down as unconstitutional.

This bill threatens the safety and security of Asian-Americans, immigrants from Asia, and other immigrants and offers no real national security benefit.

- Instead of targeting countries or regimes, HB 1093 targets individuals based on their nation of origin.
 - Questioning people's national loyalty based on their country of origin is offensive and xenophobic, hearkening back to McCarthyism and the anti-Chinese land laws of the 1920s.

The bill risks serious legal challenges.

- The constitution protects all people from illegal discrimination, not just citizens. This bill violates people's constitutional rights and tread on the purview of the federal government by regulating an immigration issues.
- There is a federal court case against Florida for a similar piece of legislation that was granted an injunction for violating two individuals' constitutional rights. Georgia must not pass a harmful bill and test its constitutionality after the fact.

The bill creates an unfriendly and risky business climate for international investment.

- The list of countries targeted by this legislation changes depending on the international political climate. People and businesses from any country, therefore, would think twice before moving to or investing in Georgia.

The bill goes against basic American rights and ideals.

- The bill criminalizes people not because of anything they have done wrong, but because of their immigration status and where they came from.



- The bill could make buying a piece of property a felony, with monetary penalties being up to \$15,000, and prison time between one and two years.
- The bill's monthly residency requirements restrict freedom of movement.

The broad and vague definitions of this bill apply to most land in Georgia, including rental and leased properties.

- The bill's application to unzoned land is unclear. How would it be determined if unzoned land is *capable* of agricultural use?
- This law would not only apply to property being purchased, it would impact rental properties and businesses in the state who may have international partners from the designated nations list. The Georgia Realtors Association has even suggested it could impact college students living in dorms.
- In addition to the 10 military bases in some of the most populated cities in Georgia, the bill's ban on purchasing and renting property within a 25-mile radius of *critical infrastructure* would render Georgia almost unlivable for targeted individuals.

HB 1903 will lead to racial profiling, harassment, and exploitation of anyone perceived to be from an East Asian, Middle Eastern, or South American country.

- Under this law, some immigrants would be vulnerable to having their land seized by the government without any form of recourse or restitution.
- The law could lead to violations of the Fair Housing Act and lead brokers and sellers to discriminate against prospective purchasers.