

2024 HB0894 Testimony For 2024-03-26.pdf

Uploaded by: Alan Lang

Position: FAV

Honorable Senators

Please vote for HB0894.

This bill as amended, would prohibit Maryland from using funds to purchase technology products, and/or services from manufacturers or other providers that are owned by, affiliated with and/or unduly influenced by countries subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

Allowing ITAR listed countries into our procurement system poses significant risks to national security, the economy, and critical infrastructure. ITAR listed countries could exploit vulnerabilities in the supply chain, potentially leading to catastrophic effects on security and the digital economy. Also, enacting legislation to prohibit procurement bids to countries under embargo aligns with responsible governance and upholds Maryland's Integrity by ensuring our state's commitment to global peace and our contribution to national security efforts.

For instance, the purchase of U.S. farmland by foreign entities raises concerns about food security and national interests. Legislation has been introduced here and in other states to prevent foreign adversaries/ITAR listed countries from purchasing real estate, including agricultural land, to safeguard against malign foreign influence.

The Department of Homeland Security emphasizes the need for additional authority to address supply chain risks effectively and protect against threats posed by foreign-based suppliers like Kaspersky Lab (Russia), ZTE (China), and Huawei (China).

In summary, allowing ITAR listed countries into the Maryland procurement system can compromise national security, economic stability, and critical infrastructure. Vigilance and measures to safeguard against such risks are crucial to protect the country's interests.

This bill passed the House without any unfavorable testimony.

Please vote for HB0894.

Alan Lang, District 31
242 Armstrong Lane
Pasadena, MD 21122
410.336.9745
Alanlang1@verizon.net

Jackie Deal-HB894 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Brian Chisholm

Position: FAV

My name is Jackie Deal. I live in Washington, but grew up in Montgomery County and have spent the last two decades researching China's military strategy. This work inspired me to testify that HB894 is necessary to protect Marylanders and your infrastructure.

China under Xi Jinping, the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, has a strategy of "military-civil fusion." As part of military-civil fusion, the party claims the data of even nominally private or commercial actors to use that information for state purposes.

In conjunction with this policy, China under Xi has increasingly targeted the United States at the subnational, or state and local, level.

China is targeting state and local governments in Maryland to secure contracts for its firms so that they can amass data and leverage to coerce Marylanders.

So we need this bill to counter that even if it costs Marylanders more in the short term. And I'm sorry that decades of failed policy in Washington has put us in this position. But as you know, Xi Jinping is pursuing the "China Dream" — which if he succeeds will be the U.S.'s nightmare.

Since 2017 Xi has demanded that all Chinese firms and people secretly provide intelligence to the state. So any Chinese company with operations or products in Maryland would have to comply.

That's why the FBI recently put out a warning about Chinese drones such as DJI drones in particular, encouraging "U.S. critical infrastructure owners and operators to procure drones" manufactured by U.S. companies. The FBI knows that there's a problem, but it can't get folks in D.C. to fix it, so it's up to the states.

DJI and other Chinese drones are cheap and appear to work, but reports from the war in Ukraine (e.g., <https://tinyurl.com/4e7u7kww>) suggest that Russians are using Chinese software to track Ukraine's DJI drones and the people flying them in real time to target them. So how safe is that?

Drones are part of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which Xi says China must dominate, and so are autonomous vehicles. Xi has banned Teslas from sensitive areas on the mainland. So why is Maryland buying buses made by Tesla's state-backed Chinese competitor BYD?

And it's not just dependence on China for things that fly or drive that we have to worry about — it's also biotech and pharmaceutical products, as we saw during the

pandemic, as well as other elements of our critical infrastructure and network systems, from utility grid inputs to computers, printers, security cameras, and scanners. They're all part of Xi's vision of being a "network great power" and "winning" the 21st century.

Unfortunately, however, if Xi's China wins, then Maryland and Marylanders lose. That's why bills like HB894 are necessary to protect this great state.

Jacqueline N. Deal
President, Long Term Strategy Group
deal@ltstrategy.com

HB0894Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Peggy Williams

Position: FAV

HB0894 Support

Dear Committee Members:

I support this bill because I do not believe we should be doing any business with “scrutinized entities” or anyone affiliated with the Chinese Communist Party. Please support this bill.

Vote YES on HB 894.pdf

Uploaded by: Stacy Pedersen

Position: FAV

To the Maryland Congress:

I support this Bill

Vote YES on HB 894

Sincerely,

Stacy Pedersen

HB0894 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: William Love

Position: FAV

I'm Bill Love of 490 Fairoak Dr, Severna Park MD

Concerning HB0894: Procurement - Scrutinized Entities - Prohibition

I support this bill because I do not believe we should be doing any business with "scrutinized entities" or anyone affiliated with the Chinese Communist Party.

Please, vote unfavorably to this unconstitutional bill.

Thank you