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Re: Rules Committee Hearing for HB 3464

Madam Chair and Committee members,

It's an understatement to say we have a serious problem here. The lax enforcement of our immigration laws over the years has put all of us in a very difficult situation.

Whether sneaking over the border without inspection, or over-staying a Visa, people here illegally are in a tight spot. No matter how you choose to spin it - it's a fact that these people are breaking the law. House Bill 3464 is a misguided effort to help these people.

But, to justify and to go so far as to protect the presence of those people here illegally, the sponsors of this bill must also accept the ongoing lawbreaking that goes along with it – using a fraudulent or stolen identity, working here, being paid under the table, driving without a license or insurance and more all make their illegal presence even more concerning.

Are we to accept that certain lawbreaking is acceptable and has the blessing of this administration? Is it acceptable to break some laws if it serves the purpose of those that benefit – such as businesses that choose to use illegal labor?

Are the sponsors of this bill prepared to accept full responsibility for the more serious crimes committed by people here illegally – the ones you are advocating to shield from detection and possible deportation with this legislation?

What's even worse, strategically plotting to *not* cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) – to even go so far as to try to pass legislation shielding these people from the legal consequences of their actions is disturbing on every level. It leaves me doubting the ethics and sincerity of the oath of office taken by the sponsors of this legislation.

Even if your intentions are noble, the sad point is that your efforts will do nothing to help the people you claim to be trying to help. You are, indeed, compounding their problems by providing cover for them to be here illegally.

I see this legislation as a lose – lose for everyone – even the people you erroneously claim to be helping.

Thank you.