

Elizabeth Van Staaveren
McMinnville OR
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Honorable House Judiciary Committee members:

I oppose House Bill 2932, “relating to the immigration status of criminal defendants ...”

This bill protects illegal immigrants, thus undermining the sovereignty of our nation and threatening the safety of citizens and legal immigrants.

Protective measures such as this erase the value of citizenship, and encourage further illegal immigration. They say to the world: Welcome, anyone, come and settle here in the U.S., and don't bother to observe the immigration laws.

We see the results of such policies in the U.S. now. There are anywhere from 12 to 22 million illegal aliens in the country as reported by several sources including official government statistics and various impartial research groups. Our borders are today besieged with persons attempting illegal entry and too often succeeding. Over [700,000 people](#) have overstayed their visas and remain here illegally.

Do you think there should be no limits to the size of our population and that citizens should have no say about how many and which immigrants can come legally?

The ease with which illegal aliens can enter and remain in the U.S. in disregard of our laws causes cynicism and disrespect for law among the citizenry, leading to cheating and dishonesty generally.

The easy availability of illegal labor reduces wage levels for all workers and enables exploitation by employers.

Furthermore, the presence of illegal aliens is very costly to Oregon financially. Careful estimates by the Federation for Immigration Reform show that Oregon spends over \$1 billion annually for expenses caused by illegal immigration, including \$913,046,575 for illegal aliens themselves and \$1,219,830,224 for the aliens plus their U.S.-born children. (See page 33 of the [2017 pdf report](#). Following p. 33 is a chart displaying State by state costs of illegal immigration. **Note that these are state costs only; federal costs are excluded from the totals.**

Crime by foreign nationals in Oregon is already a serious problem. Monthly statistics on criminal aliens in Oregon state prisons who have ICE holds on them are available online [here](#). The figures shown for costs of their incarceration are huge, to say nothing of the personal costs to their victims. A national analysis of [SCAAP data](#) suggests that illegal aliens commit crime at a much higher rate than citizens and lawful immigrants.

The picture of the innocent illegal alien so widely promoted by their advocates is false. As one writer [relates](#):

“Overstay and illegal presence are not themselves crimes (they should be: they are civil offenses against the law), but failure to register is a crime. Nearly every illegal alien commits these crimes daily along with a daily cascade of other crimes related to identity. They use false/forged/stolen ID, such as Social Security numbers, resident alien cards, and drivers licenses. Many use criminal organizations to enter the U.S., or to obtain their false IDs. They swear falsely and present false documents on I-9 forms required for employment. ...”

Judiciary Committee members, if you believe in the sovereignty of the U.S., if you respect the history of this country, care for our country's future and the well-being of its citizens, I urge you to vote NO on HB 2932.

Elizabeth Van Staaveren, McMinnville OR