

Submitter: Brenda Nieto Rosas  
On Behalf Of:  
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Measure: HB3089

I was still in diapers when I was brought to the United States from Mexico. My young and hopefully parents yearned for the American dream they heard all about. However, the truth was not so sweet. The hardships my family faces weren't apparent to me until I graduated high school. I was not aware that college was an option for undocumented students. In addition, I knew our financial situation was not set up to support me going to college and as a first-generation student, my parents did not know how to help . I was lucky enough to have supportive family-friends who offered to help out. Thus, I went to community college. As an undocumented student, I am very limited in scholarships and financial aid.

The normal events for a teenager into a young adult is to get a drivers license, get a job, travel, and go to a university. Due to my status, I was held back on all these opportunities. Being held back in a cage while I watched everyone else continue without me, isolated and empty.

My family runs a small family business selling our produce to our community during the summer. However, during the winter our business closes down due to no crops growing. We barely make enough to last till next summer and since we are unavailable to work we have to ration our money to last for food, rent, and gas.

According to 2019 HOPE Center's Real College survey, 46% of Latinx students experience food insecurity. That is not just a number, those are human beings. That is me. I hope students can count on your support of HB 3089.