

February 10, 2012

Chairman Steve Brunk

House Federal and State Affairs Committee

My name is Lety Sarmiento.

I am writing in full support of legislation HB 2712. I truly believe that *all* Kansas residents would reap the many benefits of such law. Not only will the proposed law benefit the economy of the state, but can also grant residents a sense of safety in their community. Furthermore, by helping families stay together, Kansas would have the opportunity to show compassion to deserving human beings that truly contribute and have a positive impact in their communities.

Allowing workers to remain in this country would help many businesses that are facing labor shortages stay afloat. But we also are aware that the proposed law would save the cost of incarcerations and deportations that would be rendered unnecessary. If monetary considerations were the only ones to consider, HB 2712 makes the absolute most sense.

Thankfully, green paper rectangles are not the only factors to consider when deciding on the rules that should govern our actions. Safety is of outmost importance to me in the workplace and in my neighborhood, not only for myself, but also for my family. I know that most would agree with me that it would feel safer in a workplace where all our colleagues were subjected to the same background checks. We would also feel safer in a community where the most people possible had the opportunity to study for, pass, and receive driver's licenses.

I challenge the state of Kansas to take this opportunity. An opportunity to strengthen our economy, an opportunity to make our communities safer in more ways than one, and the most gratifying of all opportunities; to allow these rightful community members to make a positive impact in our communities.

Sincerely,

Lety Sarmiento

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House Fed & State Affairs

Date: 2-14-12

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