

March 20, 2013

To House Standing Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Representative Arlen Siegfried, Chair
Representative Steve Brunk, Vice Chair

From Leah Herron

RE: HB 2192

In Support

Representative Siegfried, Representative Brunk and Committee Members

I support HB 2192 for the following reasons:

I am speaking today in support of this bill, in particular, this portion:

An alien who is not lawfully present in the United States is not a domiciliary resident of the state, and in no event shall such individual be entitled to pay resident fees upon enrollment at any state educational institution.

I am a law-abiding citizen of the state of Kansas. My husband and I work hard to support our family. My oldest daughter went to Johnson County Community College for her two years of basics before going to nursing school. JCCC receives tax funds for its operating budget. My youngest daughter plans on attending Kansas State in two years, which also receives funds provided through taxes.

The cost of higher education continues to increase as does living expenses across the board. I am very much against the state taking my hard earned money and choosing to give it away. It should not be my responsibility to pay for the education of those that are not a legal resident of this state or our country.

While some argue that it is the compassionate response, I submit that it should not be up to the state to decide how I spend my hard earned money. It should be my decision and my decision alone how I allot money for charity.

The cost of post secondary education continues to rise. The burden of educating illegal aliens should not fall on the back of hard working, Kansas tax payers. Kansas is also sending out a message that says, Come to Kansas, break the law and we will reward you.

I will gladly stand for questions.