

Honorable Chairman LaTurner and Kansas Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee members:

I am here today to testify on both bills: SB 157 and SB 158 to let you know how these two bills will negatively impact people, families and businesses in our community.

Please vote NO on SB 157.

SB 158: Prohibitions and sanctions against local law enforcement for not enforcing federal immigration law is a costly idea for the citizens of Kansas. This bill calls for local law enforcement to risk a rift in their relations with the communities and people they serve and with whom they need close cooperation. This damages the effectiveness of local law enforcement officers in solving real crimes when large sections of our citizens are fearful of police and don't trust them. In criminal cases, it will be impossible to get witnesses to testify in court.

A 2010 study from Baylor University and Texas Wesleyan School of Law, "The Economic Impact of Local Immigration Regulation," shows the economic impact of restrictive immigration laws.

It found that in places where local anti-immigration laws were enacted, employment fell by 1% to 2%. On average, 337 to 675 jobs were lost in jurisdictions that implemented such laws. This translates to 40 to 80 jobs lost in the median county.

A 2013 Migration Policy Institute report notes that the costs and scope of immigration enforcement have expanded greatly for the federal government in recent years; the costs were an estimated \$18 billion in 2012, and some \$187 billion since the passage of the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act.

If SB 157 and SB 158 convert into laws, these may cause inefficient distribution of the labor supply as immigrants, in the absence of such immigration laws, naturally gravitate to areas where skilled, affordable labor is needed.

Immigrants spending power is in the billions now, many business will suffer the consequences if this spending is reduced or eliminated.

Undocumented immigrants pay property and sales taxes. State and city governments will lose this stream of revenue too.

Restaurant, retail shops, gas stations, law firms, non profit organizations, churches and all other entities that receive the money spent by undocumented immigrants will be negatively impacted.

Fed and State Committee

Date 2-15-2017

Attachment # 34

I will read two articles that appeared in The Guardian, Blomberg, Washington Post and Forbes news papers:

“Just now, in Alabama immigration: crops rot as workers vanish to avoid crackdown

The day before harsh new laws came into effect, Brian Cash had 65 Hispanic men picking tomatoes. Now he has none.

Brian Cash can put a figure to the cost of Alabama's new immigration law: at least \$100,000. That's the value of the tomatoes he has personally ripening out in his fields and that are going unpicked because his Hispanic workforce vanished literally overnight.

For generations, Cash's family has farmed 125 acres atop the Chandler Mountain, a plateau in the north of the state about nine miles long and two miles wide. It's perfect tomato-growing country – the soil is sandy and rich, and the elevation provides a breeze that keeps frost at bay and allows early planting.”

The other article reads:

“A massive factory that processes 130,000 chickens a dayInside, headless plucked birds move along conveyor belts while 300 workers, in repeated deft strokes, slice each passing carcass into chunks of kitchen-ready meat

For years, most poultry workers here were Mexican immigrants, including some who were in the country illegally. But last fall, after a tough state law against illegal immigrants took effect, many vanished overnight, rattling the town's large Hispanic community and leaving the poultry business scrambling to find workers willing to stand for hours in a wet, chilly room, cutting up dead chickens.

Even someone born and raised in Albertville may not have the necessary skills or be able to pass a background check,” said Frank Singleton, a spokesman for Wayne Farms, which owns the slaughterhouse. The firm held a job fair that attracted about 250 local residents, but few were hired, and some soon quit, daunted by the demanding work. Since the law took effect, he said, “our turnover rate has gone through the roof.”

The same think will happen in Kansas. I strongly urge you to vote NO on SB 157 and SB 158. Thank you for listening...

Respectfully

Guadalupe Magdaleno

Executive Director for Sunflower Community Action, Wichita KS

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