

Rebecca Escalante
P.O. Box 1311
Dodge City, Kansas 67801
February 14, 2012

Dear Representatives of the Federal and State Affairs:

I am a concerned citizen of Dodge City, Kansas. I am a Gold Star Mother, I am the mother of Brian A. Escalante, who was killed in Iraq in February 17, 2007, I am a Blue Star Mother because my daughter Amanda Kulikov is presently a Staff Sargent in the United States Army, I was president of the Dodge City Kiwanis Club in 2007-2009. I ran for State Representative in 2008 and I presently own two small businesses.

I am concerned because I am Hispanic and I live in an area with a large Hispanic community. One of my small business is tax preparation, of which I have done for 30 years. Federal law requires everyone to file and report income of all sources that includes undocumented workers. With the passing of HB 2576 I would be in direct conflict with state law by helping non-citizen comply with federal law.

Local police have other concerns and if the immigrant population fears them, people are not going to want to help them and if people are in trouble they will not want to call the police. I don't want that in my community. We have to work together.

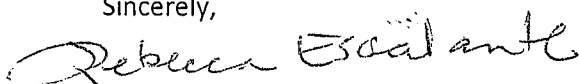
I know that domestic battery is considered a felony in Immigration laws, it is a misdemeanor for citizens, with the passing of HB 2578 many women will be less inclined to seek help.

Yet, the biggest concern would be racial profiling. If I were to forget my purse at home, I could get stopped and go to jail until they figured out what my status was. If I was a passenger in a car and I didn't have my ID, since I am not driving. Would I go directly to jail? This is false imprisonment and you have just violated my civil rights because I am not required by state law to carry my birth certificate or ID.

I would encourage you to vote against this legislation since it would be harmful to Kansans. We are a nation of immigrants, we have all made contributions to make this country great. One that stand out in my mind is the fact that it was a Marines who was born in Guatemala that was the first soldier to lay down his life in the Iraqi war. He was an immigrant who died for this country.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Escalante

House Fed & State Affairs

Date: 2-16-12

Attachment 12