

Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
of The Health and Government Operations Committee  
Annapolis, MD

and Members  
Maryland House of Delegates

RE: HB454- Health Occupations- Licenses, Certifications and Registrations- Immigrants-**OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of HGO Committee,

I am strongly urging you to oppose HB454. HB454 and its cross-filed bill SB0187 will allow illegal immigrants the privilege of to be certified for any health license and/or certification. This will cause competition between illegal immigrants and American citizens for employment where no such competition should exist. As legal, American, Maryland residents we should not be put in a situation where we are competing for a job with someone who is residing in Maryland illegally, while maintaining a citizenship of a foreign country. A poll in December 2022 revealed MD's unemployment rate to be 4.0% with a ranking of 35 out of 50 states. If HB454/SB187 are passed, this rate will increase.

Additionally, this bill authorizes the replacement of Social Security Numbers with TaxID and circumvents US Code 1324a- Unlawful Employment of Aliens which states:

**(a) MAKING EMPLOYMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS UNLAWFUL**

**(1) IN GENERAL** It is unlawful for a person or other entity—

**(A)**  
to hire, or to recruit or refer for a fee, for employment in the United States an alien knowing the alien is an unauthorized alien (as defined in subsection (h)(3)) with respect to such employment, or

**(B)**  
**(i)**  
to hire for employment in the United States an individual without complying with the requirements of subsection (b) or (ii) if the person or entity is an agricultural association, agricultural employer, or farm labor contractor (as defined in section 1802 of title 29), to hire, or to recruit or refer for a fee, for employment in the United States an individual without complying with the requirements of subsection (b).

**AND**

**(b) EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION SYSTEM**

**(1) ATTESTATION AFTER EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTATION**

**(A) In general**

The person or entity must attest, under penalty of perjury and on a form designated or established by the Attorney General by regulation, that it has verified that the individual is not an unauthorized alien

I therefore urge an UNFAVORABLE report from you and your committee against HB454.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Price (ACRWC)

Westernport, MD