

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED HOUSE BILL 403

House Bill 403, titled “Immigration Enforcement—Public Schools, Hospitals, And court House Policies,” is unconstitutional. The same as it was last year when it was submitted as HB 1273.

The paucity of detail in HB 403 shows that the bill is vague and, if passed, will ultimately be deemed void for vagueness as well as unlawful for its obvious obstructionist intent.

There are some serious gaps in the bill. It sweepingly talks about the guidelines the Attorney General is going to issue to assist public schools, hospitals and courthouses in drafting policies to “limit” immigration enforcement at their sites. But it does not indicate what the guidelines will state. How then can anyone be able to respond to a carte blanche bill?

Furthermore, it suggests that the Attorney general will be working in consultation with the stakeholders to prepare the guidelines. Since the state has not expressly or officially mandated that public schools, hospitals, and courthouses limit immigration enforcement, they cannot be stake holders in this matter. Rather any such exemptions are to date made at the discretion of the federal government,

The tone and tenor of this bill suggest that the stakeholders are the illegal aliens, their cohorts, supporters, and representatives. If so, such action may be deemed immoral, unethical and illegal on the part of the Attorney General. It is one thing for the state to choose not to cooperate with the federal government regarding immigration enforcement. It is quite another for the state, in the person of the Attorney General, to work hand in glove with those who are seeking to obstruct, frustrate and violate federal law. At the minimum, it is a conflict of interest in that it borders on providing advice and representation to those persons and entities.

Furthermore, the proposed statute, if passed, would result in reverse discrimination against American citizens. The Attorney General has not prepared guidelines to instruct American citizens or entities on how to limit the enforcement

federal laws applying to them.

At the top of the entrance to the Supreme Court, a beautiful banner is engraved. It reads "Equal Justice Under Law." This bill defies that fundamental principle of the rule of law and should not be passed.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Hessie L. Harris**

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