



March 15, 2013

Dear Members of the Kansas State Legislature,

I am the founding and Lead Pastor of Indian Creek Community Church in Olathe, Kansas. On any given Sunday we have 900-1,100 people in worship at our two campuses in Olathe and Gardner. Indian Creek is known for its outreach both in our local community and around the globe. In fact, on Sunday mornings the Hispanic congregation, Via de Esperanza, worships on our Olathe Campus. We are a church of people who love God passionately, love each other genuinely, and generously live out that love.

I believe that we must reject HB2192 and maintain our state policy of offering instate tuition to undocumented students; it is our ethical responsibility as persons of faith. We need to affirm the importance of loving one's neighbor and welcoming the stranger. Part of what I teach the congregation at Indian Creek is to love Jesus on a daily basis around the corner and around the world. In reaching out to the "stranger" and welcoming them into our family, we are loving Jesus.

I am dedicated to living out our solidarity and commitment to our immigrant brothers and sisters, and affirm that all people are created equally in the image of God regardless of race or nationality. I find that what I love most about God is the amazing, incredible "both/and" of grace and justice.

It is my prayer that you continue to show grace and justice to the immigrant youth and their families in our state; and to start doing so by keeping our instate tuition policy intact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Kendall".

Gary Kendall
Lead Pastor