

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Arlen Siegfroid at 5:30 P.M. on March 8, 2007 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dennis Hodgins, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Mike Heim, Revisor of Statutes Office
Carol Doel, Committee Assistant

Conferees:

Alonso Quintero - Sunflower Community Action
Mira Mdivani - Immigration Attorney
David Krehbiel
Kristian Guzman - Sunflower Community Action
Nancy Daniels - Methodist Women

Chairman Siegfroid opened the floor for continued hearing on **HB 2367** - Public benefits; illegal aliens denied certain state and local benefits.

Alonso Quintero, Sunflower Community Action opposes **HB 2367**. Mr. Quintero stated that he is the father of three children and if **HB 2367** is passed his children's education will be taken away and that his children will never be equal if their future is taken away. ([Attachment 1](#))

David Krehbiel presented testimony for his father, Pastor Val Krehbiel, in opposition to **HB 2367**. Pastor Krehbiel is opposed to the bill because it would eradicate current in-state tuitions to undocumented students. He further related that immigrant children are in no way a detriment to our country - they are the brightest future that our country could have. ([Attachment 2](#))

Mira Mdivani, an immigration lawyer, made a statement in opposition to **HB 2367**. Ms. Mdivani opposes the bill because under Federal Law, immigrants are not eligible for most public benefits and a state law stating this is unnecessary. Second, a similar law in Colorado cost that state \$2 million and has saved the state nothing. Third, a similar law in Colorado caused problems for U.S. Citizens. Fourth, illegal immigrants are bolstering Social Security with billions. Fifth, Ms. Mdivani stated that Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke says higher levels of immigration can help save the Social Security and Medicare programs. ([Attachment 3](#)) Also presented for Committee review was a copy regarding the Colorado Immigration Law ([Attachment 4](#)), Illegal immigrants and Social Security ([Attachment 5](#)),

Kristian Guzman, Sunflower Community Action came before the Committee to oppose **HB 2367**. Mr. Guzman stated that he has been in the State of Kansas since he was five years old. Since that time, he has been attending Wichita Public Schools. He related that with the passage of this bill, it will stop him and many of his friends and classmates from furthering their education. ([Attachment 6](#))

Nancy Daniels of the Kansas Conference United Methodist Women, opposes **HB 2367**. She related that she opposes it as a person of faith, as a child advocate, and as a mother, grandmother, wife, cousin and neighbor. Ms. Daniels further stated that those who choose to be at peace must help their neighbors to be at peace. Those who wish to live well must help others to live well, and those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness. ([Attachment 7](#))

The Chairman called attention to written testimony opposing **HB 2367** from Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved ([Attachment 8](#)), Gary George of the Olathe School District ([Attachment 9](#)), Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence ([Attachment 10](#)), Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services ([Attachment 11](#)), Kansas Health Policy Authority ([Attachment 12](#)), Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City ([Attachment 13](#)), El Cenetro, Inc. ([Attachment 14](#)), and Connie Krehbiel, ([Attachment 15](#)).

The Chair also called attention to written testimony from Representative Lance Kinzer who is a proponent

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Federal and State Affairs Committee at 1:30 P.M. on March 8, 2007 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

of **HB 2367**. (Attachment 16) Representative Kinzer also provided information from the Governor's office regarding the bill (Attachment 17) as well as information for review regarding communication between government agencies and the immigrants. (Attachment 18)

With no other person wishing to speak to **HB 2367**, Chairman Siegfroid closed the public hearing.

Other information provided to the committee was regarding **HB 2029** - Private correctional facilities. (Attachments 19 and 20)

With no other business before the Committee, Chairman Siegfroid adjourned the meeting.