

NO TO HB 2787

Search 8 U.S.C. § 1623 : US Code - Section 1623: Limitation on eligibility for preferential treatment of aliens not lawfully present on basis of residence for higher education benefits

(a) In general
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien who is not lawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible on the basis of residence within a State (or a political subdivision) for any postsecondary education benefit unless a citizen or national of the United States is eligible for such a benefit (in no less an amount, duration, and scope) without regard to whether the citizen or national is such a resident.

(b) Effective date
This section shall apply to benefits provided on or after July 1, 1998.

As an American Citizen, and an Oregonian taxpayer my husband and I are very outraged when our elected representatives create and pass laws that knowingly goes directly against our Federal laws. Yet, the same elected representative will hold Oregonians accountable to the laws they create. "Do as I say, not as I do" Last I was aware of, we are a Republic, and we not only respect and follow the rule of law, but we are guided by rule of law to be fair and just, and we are held accountable to the rule of law.

Tuition equity? No this is anything but tuition equity. This bill gives special financial privileges to people that are illegally in our Country over and above any American from any other State. We are hard pressed to find the equality when Oregon students will have to compete for limited enrollment, limited spaces in classes, and limit students in career programs. Then there is the financial burden that is passed to the taxpayer to subsidize tuition that should be for legal Oregonian students.

We understand the dilemma that these college students are facing. And it is not their fault they were brought here illegally. But, again no amnesty has been granted. This bill requires the student to show "Intent" to become a citizen or permanent resident. Showing "intent" and applying does not guarantee anything. If permanent residency is not given upon graduation, then working in the United States would be illegal. This bill is based on guess work, and hope.

We understand the "hardship" of having to pay the higher tuition. But again it is also a "hardship" for many American families who are trying to put their children through college, who as a citizen will not receive the same equal break offered to people illegally here. Public Universities are free in Mexico, for their citizens, and advantage and a benefit No American has.

According to our Federal law Sec 8 USC 1324 section 274 it states: A person (including a group of persons, business, organization, or local government commits a federal felony when he or she assists and illegal alien s/he should reasonable know is illegally in the U.S or who lacks employment authorization, by transporting, sheltering, or assisting him or her to obtain employment or encourages that illegal alien to remain in the U.S by referring him or her to an employer or by acting as an employer or agent for an employer in any way or knowingly assist illegal aliens due to personal convictions.

Oregon has been a magnet for people illegally in our country. As an Oregon citizen we have seen year after year, administration after administration continue to turn a blind eye. The estimated cost of illegal aliens to the Oregon taxpayer has reached more than \$1 BILLION DOLLAR! \$111.4 million on health care; \$140 million on criminal justice activities; \$12.8 million on welfare; \$79.2 million for additional state/local operating cost, and \$734 million to educate the children of illegal aliens.

We are told over and over that this is the "right thing to do." When will our lawmakers stop turning a blind eye and stop justifying special privileges to people based on their illegal status? When will our lawmakers and leaders start doing "the right thing" for their Oregon constituents? By ignoring our laws our leaders and lawmakers have made being an American nothing more than a 2nd class citizen within their own country. In order to break our laws, give special privileges to people that are here illegally you in turn take away from those who are American citizens.

We are angry as Oregon Taxpaying citizens. We are frustrated as parents who have had 2 of our kids compete for spaces, and limited space in career program because the college is friendly to people illegally here. As a parent of an active military daughter we are livid, and disgusted as our own Country has suspended tuition assistance programs promised to our Veterans and our active military men and women who has served our country, and who is currently serving and have been promised. Yet, here in the State of Oregon our lawmakers want to pass a bill to grant subsidized in state tuition to people illegally in this country and who have the opportunity to receive free college in their own country. No, this bill is the wrong thing to do and should not be passed!

Daryl Hallgrimson

Brenda Hallgrimson

Bailey Hallgrimson