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3/22/21

Dear Chair Bynum and members of the committee,

I've never written a testimony for a house bill before, but HB 3265 is so important that I want to document my support for it. I am also asking you for your support of HB 3265, The Sanctuary Promise Act. Many have documented so eloquently why this bill is important. My insight comes from my experience as a retired early intervention teacher of children with special needs. I know there were and still are many immigrant families who do not seek special services for their children due to their fear of being targeted as immigrants and their family being split apart. When children do not receive the services they need they will not develop to their full potential and that impacts not only them and their families but their communities as well. Most of us want the best for others and we see the link between feeling safe and seeking the services for our families that are essential. When immigrants do not feel safe to drive, buy groceries, attend their place of worship they will not even think of asking for critical services for their children. Please put into law legislation that prevents roadblocks that may prevent others from accessing what they need without the fear of being separated from their family.

Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.

Nancy McAuliffe