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Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

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Dear Chair Bynum and members of the judiciary committee,

I write to you today in support of HB 3265, the Sanctuary Promise Act that would expand our current sanctuary law. This legislation would enable members of our community, who today live in fear, to have a tomorrow in which they could feel safe. As a person of faith, I believe it is my responsibility, not just to welcome the stranger, but to love my neighbor. I do this with my whole heart, secure in the belief that all human beings are children of God and deserve to be treated with respect. This piece of legislation does that by expanding our state's sanctuary law so that immigrants and refugees would be safer than they are today. To have a sanctuary is a basic human need. We all need a place that offers space for our soul and where we can feel safe. I am also a part of the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice. As such I belong to a network of people that accompanies members of our community as they navigate an immigration system that separates families and tears communities apart. Thank you for the work you do, and for your attention to my concerns.