

Submitter: Dagmar Dolan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB3176

Representatives Tawna Sanchez, Ron Noble, Anna Williams, Cheri Helt, Allisa Keny-Guyer, Gary Leif, Tiffany Mitchell and Sheri Schouten,

I strongly urge you to pass the House Bill 3176. When I was 18, my parents and I fled Czechoslovakia after the Russian invasion in 1968. We became political refugees in the Netherlands. Dutch government welcomed us with open arms. I was sent to a full immersion language school, and after three short months I was able to start a four year study of graphic design at the Royal Academy of Visual Arts in the Hague. My parents received financial assistance and help with finding housing. They soon found jobs and no longer needed governmental help.

Speaking from my own experience, it is paramount to provide initial help in order to help immigrants become integrated members of the society.

My parents and I more than repaid the initial investment by not only paying taxes, but by becoming contributing citizens - we have enriched the society by sharing our education and our culture.

Sincerely,

Dagmar Dolan

www.dasjadolan.com