

Submitter: Richard Wisner  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611  
23 March 2025

Senate Committee on Human Services

Senate Bill 611

Dear Chair Senator Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Senator Linthicum and members of the Committee:

I have personally helped hundreds of foreign residents immigrate to the United States to become citizens. In each and every case it was through the proper channels. Giving legitimacy to foreign residents who enter our country illegally completely disrespects that work as well as the effort of those longing to become citizens. It's insulting.

Illegal immigration is a problem in our country and legislation such as SB 611 does not help remedy that problem, but it does affect it. One of the ways is by offering benefits for breaking our nation's laws, which is just plain wrong. There is such a thing as right and wrong.

I am all for state's rights, but I am opposed to the passage of SB 611 providing SNAP assistance to 'residents' who do not qualify for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program due to their immigration status. Immigration status is important and ought not be ignored or denigrated, which is precisely what Senate Bill 611 encourages. One would think the legislature, of all people, would be interested in the propriety and legality of our laws but legislation such as Senate Bill 611 plainly shows that is not the case.

Despite what sponsors and supporters of this legislation believe, immigration status does have meaning. Senate Bill 611 undermines that meaning. Senate Bill might sound like a good plan, but it is not and ought not be passed.

Thank you,  
Richard Wisner