



State of Indiana

Senate

State House
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785

(317) 232-9400

June 17, 2010

Mayor Mark Kruzan
Office of the Mayor
401 N Morton St. Suite 210
Bloomington IN 47404

Dear Mayor Kruzan,

As Indiana lawmakers, we were both saddened and disappointed by Bloomington's recent decision to boycott fellow U.S. citizens and employers in Arizona, because of their new law making it a state crime to be in the country illegally.

As you may know, current federal law already requires all visitors of the United States to carry on their person documentation establishing their lawful presence in our country. Arizona elected officials are simply doing what our federal government has shown to be unable and unwilling to do – enforce existing federal law. General Assemblies often change state codes to align with federal law; it is done routinely in matters related to healthcare, education, pensions and labor, energy, environment, transportation, insurance, veteran affairs, agriculture and homeland security.

Due to the inaction of our federal government on illegal immigration, taxpayers of Arizona are burdened with an estimated \$2.7 billion of increased government costs at social service agencies, hospitals and schools for the reported 460,000 illegal immigrants in their state. To put this staggering price tag for state and local governments into perspective, the total annual state budget for Arizona is \$8.9 billion. Hoosiers can only imagine the outrage among Arizonans as their lawmakers this year struggled to close a \$2.6 billion state budget gap, which included voter decisions on repealing, among other things, popular early-childhood and land-conservation programs.

Added to these taxpayer expenses is the high price paid in human costs by innocent Arizona citizens living in fear of violent crime associated with illegal smugglers, drug traffickers and violent felons. Earlier this year, the Los Angeles Times reported 15 percent of Arizona state prisoners were illegal immigrants. The same news story reported 20 percent of detainees of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department were illegals. State Rep. John Kavanagh, a co-sponsor of Arizona's law, said of illegal immigrants, "They bring a lot of crime with them." Statistics backed Kavanagh's observation. Calculations based on figures from the Arizona Department of

Public Safety, show illegal immigrants accounted for arrests in 90,405 property crimes investigations from 2002 to 2009 and were arrested in connection with 9,237 violent rapes, robberies, homicides and assaults during that same period. Backers of Arizona's new statute often cited the ruthless murders of two Phoenix police officers by illegal immigrants since 2007.

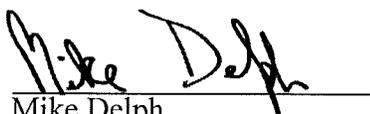
Adding insult to injury, many critics of Arizona's law do not have faith in state troopers, sheriff's deputies and local police to enforce laws without the unfair racial profiling of suspects. Law enforcement officers across our country are today better trained than ever before. Here in Indiana, the Law Enforcement Training Board requires all new state, county and city career officers receive a minimum of 70 hours of legal instruction. This includes an explanation on what constitutes a civil rights violation under federal law and how the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment forbids any form of discrimination based on race, sex, color, creed, national origin, age, religion and physical disability. Similar requirements are in place in states across the U.S. We believe state and local officers – many of whom receive degrees from universities and colleges – are effectively trained and professionally enforce the ordinances and laws of our communities, states and nation. As longtime Constitutional law professor Tom Campbell of California noted, "If there is racial profiling, that would be an unconstitutional application of a constitutional law."

America was founded on fundamentals of individual freedom and responsibility. We have, to the best of our ability, opened our shores to immigrants – if they abide by the laws of our land. People coming here who work hard and have a dream for a better life are participating in an American tradition that is as old as our country itself. From 2000-2009, the U.S. issued more than 10 million green cards, the highest decade on record. Today, there are 38 million legal permanent immigrants living in our 50 states and statistics show that approximately 45 percent of these individuals will go on to become naturalized citizen of the U.S. But the federal government has created an expensive, dangerous and unacceptable situation where illegal immigration is concerned – one that will impact more lives and cost more tax dollars – if leaders continue to ignore it.

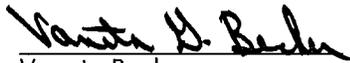
A recent USA Today/Gallup poll shows two-thirds of Americans want the government to do a better job at securing our nation's borders. Perhaps instead of boycotting Arizona, Indiana community leaders should unite and help send a clear message that law abiding citizens will no longer tolerate the federal government's failure to enforce its own illegal immigration laws.

We encourage you to take a step back from your recent decision and stand up for the rights of American citizens and taxpayers in Arizona communities who, through of no fault of their own, must face the high costs and risks associated with illegal immigration. As fellow elected officials from across Indiana, we invite you to revisit your boycott and join those of us who support the enforcement of state and federal immigration laws and the protection of our national sovereignty and security.

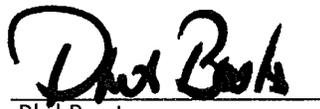
Sincerely,



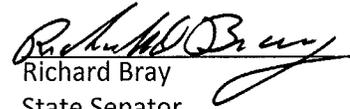
Mike Delph
State Senator
District 29



Vaneta Becker
State Senator
District 50



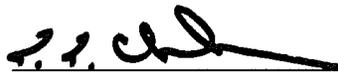
Phil Boots
State Senator
District 23



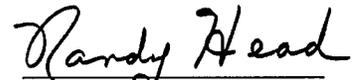
Richard Bray
State Senator
District 37



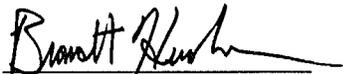
Jim Buck
State Senator
District 21



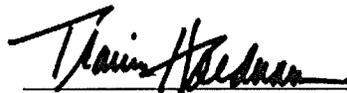
Ed Charbonneau
State Senator
District 5



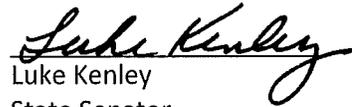
Randy Head
State Senator
District 18



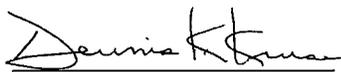
Brandt Hershman
State Senator
District 7



Travis Holdman
State Senator
District 19



Luke Kenley
State Senator
District 20



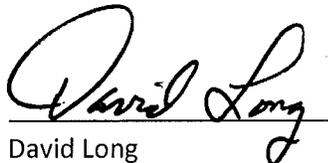
Dennis Kruse
State Senator
District 14



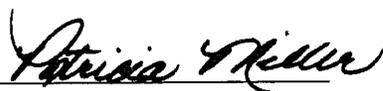
Connie Lawson
State Senator
District 24



Jean Leising
State Senator
District 42



David Long
President Pro Tempore
District 16



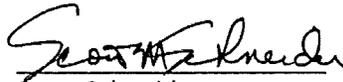
Patricia Miller
State Senator
District 32



Ryan Mishler
State Senator
District 9



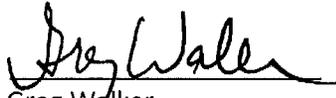
Johnny Nugent
State Senator
District 43



Scott Schneider
State Senator
District 30



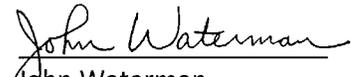
Marlin Stutzman
State Senator
District 13



Greg Walker
State Senator
District 41



Brent Waltz
State Senator
District 36



John Waterman
State Senator
District 39



Carlin Yoder
State Senator
District 12



R. Michael Young
State Senator
District 35