

I am writing to state that I firmly support the legislative proposal An Act Concerning Misdemeanor Sentences. Tearing someone away from the country they call home based solely on a single misdemeanor conviction serves to separate families, is not moral, does not uphold articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and does not reflect Connecticut's values. It is a life-altering, disproportionate punishment that does not fit in a modern justice system. Other states have passed similar legislation. California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington have all passed legislation that similarly helps undocumented people avoid consequences that are disproportionate to their actions when they are caught in the criminal justice system because of a misdemeanor conviction. Connecticut should follow their example with this bill.