

I'm writing regarding my support for An Act Concerning Misdemeanor Sentences. This legislative proposal is greatly needed in order to prevent the unjust and cruel deportation of immigrants like Wayzaro Walton who had a suspended sentence and yet faces deportation.

Here is what I've read:

Federal immigration law funnels people into deportation if they are convicted of certain misdemeanors that carry a sentence of 365 days or more even if they are not sentenced to 365 days. Even if the sentence is suspended (Wayzaro's case), they may be deemed guilty of an "aggravated felony" for which detention and deportation is a near certainty.

Separating families is not only cruel, but the emotional damage it causes these families is the kind that can scar for a lifetime. The harm is inflicted not only on these families but also on our communities and society when families are emotionally damaged. I urge you to support An Act Concerning Misdemeanor Sentences as a step toward preventing family damage.

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