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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2003-04

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Government Operations and
Spending Limitations...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations

Assembly Bill 95

Relating to: allowing aliens who are not legal permanent residents of the United States to pay resident tuition.

By Representatives Colon, Krawczyk, Zepnick, Young, Berceau, Pocan, Hahn, J. Lehman, Townsend, Turner and Morris; cosponsored by Senators Carpenter, Risser and Chvala.

February 20, 2003 Referred to Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations.

October 29, 2003 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (6) Representatives F. Lasee, Loeffelholz, Musser, Weber, Zepnick and Wasserman.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances For

- Rep. Pedro Colon, 8th Assembly District
- Rev. Joseph Jackson, MICAH-WISDOM
- Maria Flores, MICAH-WISDOM
- William Brennan, MICAH
- Courtney Bander, JOSHUA / WISDOM
- Jose Gutierrez
- Angelina Nava
- Rev Rachel Reeves Schwab, WISDOM / ESTHER
- Brenda Garcia

Lois Pulvermacher, JOSHUA / WISDOM

Gerardo Mancilla

Steve Herro, JOSHUA / WISDOM

Mario Ramirez

Vicky Coppens, JOSHUA

Barbara Shiffer, JOSHUA / WISDOM

Ebba Johnson, WISDOM / CUSH

Dennis Lowder, MICAH

Christina Neumann-Ortiz, Voresde la Frontera

Mirella Perez

Professor Javier Tapia, UW-Milwaukee

Patricia Briones, ACLU
Lauren Lopez, MCSC
Romilia Schlueter, Centro Guadalupe
Alfonso Zepeda Capistrano, LUCLA
Elizabeth Melendez, Voces de la Frontera
Jose Carrillo, UAW
Yeni Salgado, Voces de la Frontera
Leon Carlos Miranda, Associated Students of Madison
Saul Castillo, United Auto Workers
Bethany Ordaz, United Council of UW Students
Aurelio Salazar, MEChA
Jennifer Epps, United Council of UW Students
Celsa Rodriguez, Mecha
Rev. Sue Moline Larson, Lutheran Office for Public Policy in WI
Lorena Vargas
Krystal Rendon
Mathew Urick
Andres Garcia
Luisa Morales
Marsha Brucher
Yessenia Sanchez
Veronica Raya
Karla Leon
Al Levie, Horlick High School
Salena Martinez
Edgar Garcia
Luis Montoto, La Movida WLMV 1480
Kristen O'Neill, WISDOM / JOSHUA
Jorge Sardi
Dave McGinnis, MICAH
Dante Fambrana
Paula Hernandez
Patricia Klas, MEChA
Maria Cortez, LCLAA / UAW

Appearances Against

None.

Appearances for Information Only

Beth Weckmueller, UW-Milwaukee
David Miller, UW System

Registrations For

Elisa Modina

Deb Sybell, State Bar of Wisconsin
Naomi O'Brien
Karina Fernandez
Sen. Tim Carpenter, 3rd Senate District
Roque Sato
Marily Ayala
Elise Orta
Alan Zavala
Brian Cruz
Crystal Nelsen
Luisa Ramos
Tiara Martinez
Laura Espinoza
Edgardo Garcia
Nicholas Johnson
Maricella Jaimes
Timothy Basaldua
Augustine Rodriguez
Karina Morales
Jessica Balderas
Paulita Talamantez
Natan Arden
Traci Talamantez
Jaime Villalabor
Hugo Sanchez
April Martinez
Xavier Marquez
Julette Sanchez
Carlos Alvarez
Adam Molbeck
Jose Ayala
Norma Ferreira
Elia Serna
Ivana Renteria
Damon Serna
Samuel Martinez
Samantha Ashley, Student Labor Action Coalition
Thomas Avila
Maria Morales, Voses de la Frontera
Paul Gabriel, Milwaukee Area Technical College
Kate McCormack
Josh Healey
Erin Stalnaker
Joyce Ellwanger, MICAH

Hellen Bessert, MICAH
Kenneth Greening, Voces de la Frontera
Margarita Garcia-Guessert, MICAH
Jose Perez, MICAH / WISDOM
Sarah Shatz, Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice
Carol Murphy, MICAH / WISDOM
Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton
Gabriela Romero
Aurelio Salazar, MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan)
Laura Medina
Maritea Lopez, Voces de la Frontera
Ereya Neuman
Monica Arredondo
Julieta Ramirez
Marjorie Cervera
Diego Garduno
Maria Tovar
Rosa Rivera
Edson Marquez
Munim Flores
Evaristo Ortega
Amando Castellanos
Jose Alberto
Kannitha Sith, ASM - Diversity Committee
Devin Walker, ASM - Diversity Committee
Orlando Velasca
Joanne Ricca, Wisconsin State AFL-CIO

Registrations Against

Sen. Tom Reynolds, 5th Senate District

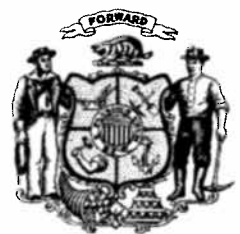
March 11, 2004

Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1.

Lance Burri
Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Philip J. Hendrickson
2538 Bittersweet Avenue
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301

May 29, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
1601 Riverbend Ter.
Green Bay, WI 54311

Dear Frank:

I read in the newspaper that the Assembly is taking up the reduction of tuition at the State University for illegal aliens.

I am definitely opposed to this because illegal aliens should be returned to Mexico.

Sincerely,

Phil Hendrickson

ak

ask him
I have concerns about
extending benefits to people
who are here illegally.



2538 Marshall Parkway
Madison Wisconsin 53713

June 18, 2003

Representative Pedro Colon
Room 5 North
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Representative Colon:

I am writing to you in support of AB95. The children on whom your bill focuses are State residents and citizens.

Our children—all our children—are our future. And education is the best tool we can give our children to empower them to meet the challenges and demands that we all face as a State and a Country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larrie Christianson".

Larrie Christianson



AUG 04 2008

20

JULY 30, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
2nd Assembly District
State Capitol - Room 105 West
Madison WI 53708

Dear Representative Lasee:

I am writing in support of Assembly Bill 95 which is in the Committee on Governmental Operations & Spending Limitations which you chair. I urge you to hold a hearing on this bill and support its passage.

This bill appears in the best interests of the undocumented workers to whom it refers as well as serving the common good by drawing minorities into the mainstream of our society through access to higher education. Since these individuals are already here in Wisconsin, it is only fair they be allowed to attend public universities and technical schools by paying state-resident tuition rather than much more costly non-resident tuition fees.

The Hispanic minority to whom this largely applies is already in Wisconsin, working on our farms and in our factories struggling to make a decent life for themselves and their families. When minority individuals work hard enough to qualify for higher education they should not be held back by high non-resident tuition fees.

I know you have been a representative intent on keeping taxes as low as possible, however this bill would have minimal impact. Non-resident tuition fees only put a huge stumbling block in front of people who have had more than their share of such obstacles.

I hope you will hold the hearing and support the bill. To me it is a simple matter of justice and fairness.

Best regards.

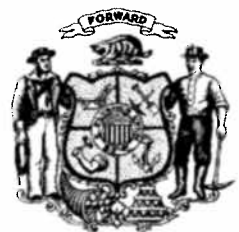
Sincerely,



Darlene Wellner
5605 Old Highway Q
Manitowoc WI 54220
920-682-9466



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Burri, Lance

From: Wayne & Dinah Hessil [whessil@netzero.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2003 10:05 PM
To: Frank", "Lasee,
Subject: Illegal Immigrants Tuition

Hi Frank,

I have been hearing and reading info that you are holding up a vote on allowing illegal aliens resident tuition rates in the UW system. Stand firm!

I believe if they are in this country illegally they should be deported, not granted favorable rates in the UW system.

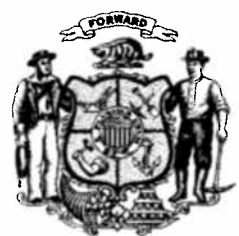
I appreciate your email newsletter and regularly forward it on to others. Keep up the good work.

Wayne Hessil
2031 Tunis Rd
Green Bay, WI 54311

920/468-9576



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



THE REV. GARY L. FROSETH

September 4, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
1601 Riverbend Terrace
Bellevue, WI 54311

Dear Mr. Lasee:

I am writing as chair of an interfaith/interracial group of justice advocates in the process of forming a Brown County organization which will be named JOSHUA. We will be an affiliate of the state-wide organization WISDOM.

One of our major concerns is equal rights for immigrants, which is partially addressed in Assembly Bill 95. We believe that children of undocumented workers who are graduates of Wisconsin high schools and who are working on their immigration status should have an opportunity to attend Wisconsin colleges and universities and pay in-state tuition.

My purpose in writing today is three-fold:

1. We would very much like you to move the bill to a vote;
2. JOSHUA is holding a public hearing on AB95 at 7:00pm on Tuesday, September 9th at the Brown County Library — downtown branch. We hope to show significant support for AB95 so that you will be persuaded to advance the bill through the legislative process;

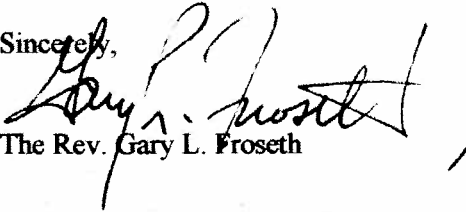
Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed. I can assure you that if you wish to speak, you will be given a fair forum.

3. We would also welcome an opportunity to meet with you at your convenience to discuss AB95. By discussing together the provisions of AB95 we are hopeful that a positive solution can be reached to a problem that is preventing many qualified students from furthering their education.

Again, please know your attendance at our hearing on September 9th is welcomed, as is a personal meeting to discuss your views on AB95.

I will follow-up with a telephone call to determine your interest in attending the public hearing and scheduling a meeting. You can be certain that in any discussion about AB95, your position on the bill and our attempts to see that it is enacted into law will be done with a commitment to respectful dialogue and reasonable discourse.

Sincerely,

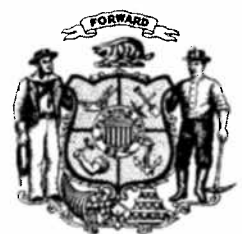

The Rev. Gary L. Froseth

1376 Bond Street
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54303

Phone: 920-499-1791
Cell: 920-412-0343
Email: prgary@aol.com



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOSH ZEPNICK
WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

September 4, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Chairman, Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations
105 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

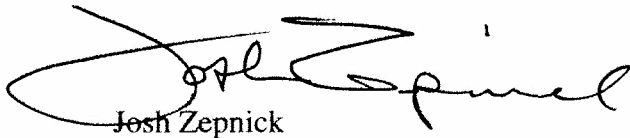
Dear Chairman Lasee:

As the ranking minority member of the Assembly Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations, I respectfully request that a public hearing be held this year on AB 95 - which would allow undocumented residents whose immigration to the United States is in progress, the opportunity to attend public colleges at in-state tuition rates.

At the request of several community organizations within my district, I have agreed to co-sponsor this legislative proposal. I also feel strongly that, in a democracy, diverse viewpoints are healthy and necessary. On that note, I believe a public hearing is both warranted and a reasonable request that would allow supporters and opponents of the bill the opportunity to have their voices heard at the State Capitol.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience so that we can discuss this further. I appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to talking with you soon.

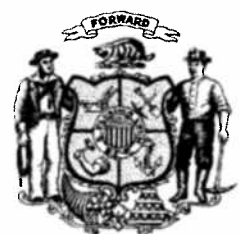
Respectfully Submitted,



Josh Zepnick



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Testimony in Support of the Passage of AB95
Given by H. Jeffrey Rafn, President
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

September 9, 2003

I am Jeff Rafn, President of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. I am here to testify in support of Assembly Bill 95 and to urge that this bill be amended to include persons wishing to attend the technical college system. Passage of the amended bill is in the best interests of the communities of this state, employers, and the children of undocumented aliens.

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) is one of sixteen technical colleges in the state of Wisconsin. The Technical College System provides for the education and training of highly skilled technical workers in a wide range of occupational fields, from nurses and other health educational personnel, to skilled trades, manufacturing, and transportation technicians, to business and information technologists. Historically, over 90% of the graduates of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College programs have found employment within six months of graduation. The average starting wage has been a little over \$27,000 per year. Virtually all students stay within the area and/or state following graduation.

Children of undocumented aliens are among the most vulnerable community residents to a variety of social ills such as poverty, crime, poor health, drug and alcohol abuse, and homelessness. These children often find themselves in these circumstances through no fault of their own. We know that one of the most effective means to overcoming or avoiding these social ills is to obtain a post-secondary education providing the skills to enter into a high skill, high paying job. Passage of this bill will make it more possible for these persons to attend the technical colleges or the UW system.

Federal financial aid programs are largely unavailable to these students due to their undocumented status. Thus, they must pay for the education through their own means. In the technical college system the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition is \$420 per credit: \$70 vs. \$490/credit. Thus over the course of a typical associate degree program, a student would pay \$33,320 vs. \$4,760 if they had to pay the out-of-state tuition rate. In other words, paying for the education needed is virtually impossible for anyone unemployed or trapped in a low paying, low skill job. Without allowing these persons to pay in-state rates, we are condemning most of them to a life of poverty, a life subject to many social ills, a life with little hope of a secure economic future. Perhaps even worse, we are condemning their children to the same life.

The economic cost to the community in prohibiting these students from obtaining post-secondary education is staggering. A recent return on investment study conducted by economists Christianson and Robison determined that for every \$1.00 invested by the taxpayers in NWTC, a yield of \$2.30 in increased tax revenue was received from the students obtaining their degree at NWTC. It further determined that the reduction in

incarceration rates, public assistance, drug and alcohol use, and health problems saved the community \$12.00 for every \$1.00 invested. The cost to the public to educate one person at NWTC is approximately \$8,000 per year, or \$16,000 over two years. That means that the community will save \$192,000 per person over the working lifetime of that person! Put another way, for every child of an undocumented alien that is denied post-secondary education at NWTC, the community pays \$192,000.

While the economy at the moment is just recovering from a depression and unemployment rates are somewhat higher than during economically strong times, we know over the relatively near term that shortages of skilled labor will be the single greatest factor in whether or not employers will be able to grow their workforce and therefore provide more goods and services. Even in these current economic times, 92% of NWTC graduates are finding work within six months of graduation. In certain fields, such as those in health occupations, job orders still outnumber the number of graduates. As the baby boom generation enters into retirement, employers are expecting shortages of workers in virtually every field, manufacturing, trades, and health, in particular. Employers are taking low skill, low paying jobs to Mexico, China, and other offshore sites where low skill labor is less expensive. That means that the jobs to be filled here will require high levels of skill. If this labor is not available, employers will take these jobs elsewhere and/or will downsize their operations here. That means a smaller tax base, fewer high paying jobs, and, in essence, a lower standard of living for those remaining in the community.

It is estimated that the greatest single source of new skilled labor will come from immigrants and other here-to-fore minority groups. That this will happen in Green Bay is presaged by the fact that all of the growth in the 1990's in the Green Bay school system is from the growth of the Southeast Asian, Latino, and other immigrant groups. Approximately 28% of that school population is minority. If we are to meet the economic needs of our community, if we are to maintain a high standard of living, if we are to grow the businesses in our area, and if we are to have a caring community, we cannot afford to let even one person be denied the opportunity of post-secondary education. We cannot afford to make it impossible for children of undocumented aliens to attend the technical colleges or the University of Wisconsin. Not only must AB95 be passed, but we must also find ways to provide further financial assistance for education to those in need.

Members of the legislature, Governor, it is imperative that AB95 be passed into law and that we begin the business of preparing all of our youth for a future of prosperity and well being.



Rasmussen, Debra

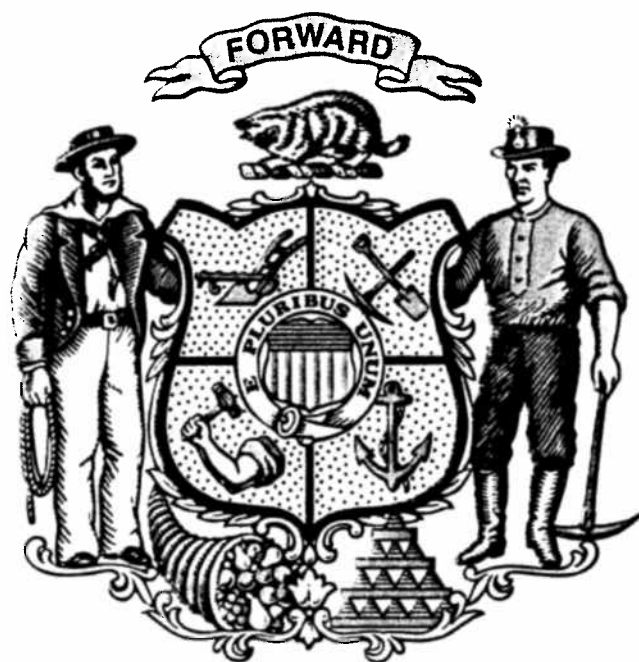
From: Pbreitbac@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2003 3:18 PM
To: Rep.Lasee@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: AB95

Representative Frank Lasee

Please vote against the legislation that would permit children of illegal aliens to enter the UW as state residents. I feel very strongly that anyone entering this country illegally should be returned to their native country and required to enter legally if they still want to live here.

Mrs. Jean Breitbach
1116 Holly Court
Kaukauna, Wi. 54130

09/11/2003



September 10, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Room 105 West
State Capitol
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Rep. Lasee:

I am happy that you met with 240 concerned citizens in Green Bay last night on AB 95. Fifteen speakers spoke on behalf of Assembly Bill 95; eleven supporters who had signed up to speak could not speak due to time limitations. I admire you for promising that the Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations would hold a public hearing on AB 95 in Madison by the end of October 2003.

Congratulations are in order to you and the planners of the meeting. The meeting was true democracy in action; I am proud that our legislators are so sensitive to the opinions of their knowledgeable constituents.

I join the supporters of the bill. I am convinced that passage of AB 95 is necessary to insure equality and human dignity for all persons in Wisconsin, regardless of country of origin. Furthermore, an investment in the postsecondary education of undocumented persons will offset the braindrain from our state as well as offer hope to a class of people whose economic opportunities have been greatly limited.

I look forward to coming to Madison as soon as possible for the committee's hearing on AB 95.

Sincerely,

Brother Steve Herro, O. Praem.

Brother Steve Herro, O. Praem.
St. Norbert Abbey
1016 N. Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
stevenherro@netscape.net
920-337-4345



Rasmussen, Debra

From: Vianney Gumz [vgumz@execpc.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2003 8:14 PM
To: rep.lasee@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Assembly Bill 95

Representative Lasee:

Hello. My name is Jeff Gumz and I teach ESL/Bilingual Social Studies at Green Bay East High School. It was nice to see you at the public hearing for Assembly Bill 95 last Tuesday night in Green Bay. I was in the audience and I was uplifted to hear that you are going to bring this bill up for discussion to the Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations.

I can think of many students who would benefit from this bill if it passed into law. As a teacher it is frustrating, you want to encourage students to attain a higher education, but you understand that there is a glass ceiling in place because of their resident status in Wisconsin. One of the worries of the state of Wisconsin is brain drain, our best students leaving to study and work in other states. I want you to recognize that there are a group of smart and hard working young people here already that would love to have the opportunity to better their lives through education, but are unable. Lets get this bill to the Assembly for a vote.

Let me know if I can be a further assistance.

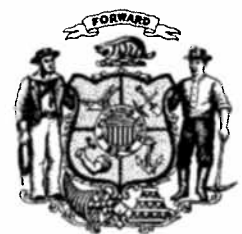
Sincerely,

Jeff Gumz
Professional Educator

09/12/2003



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



September 20, 2003

Dear Mr. Lasee,

Please keep your stand on not allowing in state tuition for our illegal immigrants. They are breaking the law by being here, and now we should reward them for it. What a message some of our lawmakers are sending out. Do not back down. Thank you.

Gary & Shirley Libal
1723 Juniper Drive
Green Bay, WI 54302





WEST SIDE MORAVIAN CHURCH

1707 South Oneida Street

Green Bay, WI 54304

Phone: (920) 499-4433 Email: moravian@netnet.net

September 23, 2003

SEP 29 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Room 105 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Representative Lasee:

I want to thank you again for meeting with Steve Herro, David Liners, Paul Jadin and me yesterday at the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. I appreciate that we had the chance to have an open discussion of the in-state tuition issue.

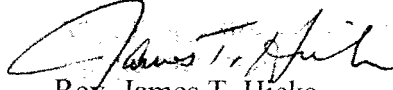
It is my understanding that you promised us that the Government Operations and Spending Limitations Committee will hold a hearing on AB95 on a Wednesday, in mid-October (15th? 22nd?). We also appreciate your indication that you would ensure that your Committee will meet soon after the hearing and that you will abide by a majority decision either to recommend the legislation to the full Assembly, or not.

JOSHUA and WISDOM promised two things. Before the time of the hearing, we will get dependable statistics from the University of Wisconsin system regarding the enrollment at each of the UW campuses (as well as the Technical Colleges, which would be affected by this measure). The idea is to see whether or not there are unfilled seats now. We will also get information about the other states (especially Illinois) which have passed similar laws – especially regarding the amount of time a student must have lived in the state to qualify.

I am sorry that we do not ultimately agree on this matter. While it is somewhat complex, it remains my and WISDOM's belief that in-state tuition is a matter of justice to these young people (who were not the ones to have made the decision to come to this country) as well as a matter of good public policy for the future of our state and its workforce.

Again, thank you for your time and attention yesterday. Feel free to contact me any time about this matter, or any other.

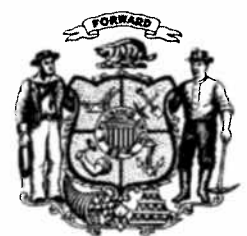
Sincerely,


Rev. James T. Hicks
JOSHUA Clergy Chair

of Sept 23 -
Thanks for the letter concerning AB95
The hearing will be on Oct 29th
at the request of the author Rep. Pedro
Colon. who will be out & I look
forward to the information you outline
in this letter.
Also, for information I told you
that I would not



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



6124 Benicks Rd
Denmark, WI. 54208
Oct 1, 2003

Dear Rep Lasee,

OCT 06 2003

Assembly Bill 95 —

I do not want this
bill to be passed or
even bring it out of
committee. I am
not in favor of children
of immigrants going
to college in this
state.

Sincerely,
Helen Kudick

Thank her.
Inform her I am against Bill
on principle of giving
aid + benefits
to people here / legal /
file w/bill





(over)

Bay Area Workforce Development Board

317 W. Walnut St.
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54303
(920) 431-4100
FAX (920) 431-4101

OCT 08 2003

October 7, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Room 105 West
State Capital
P. O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

*File with Bill -
Find out if an 2 or 4 yr colleges
have open seats.*

Dear Representative Lasee:

The Bay Area Workforce Development Board, constituted under the Workforce Investment Act, recognizes a serious shortcoming in Wisconsin law. Children of undocumented immigrants, who graduate from Wisconsin high schools, are required to pay out-of-state tuition at Wisconsin colleges and universities.

The requirement to pay three and four times the cost of in-state tuition is preventing some of the best and brightest graduates of Wisconsin high schools from attending college. This roadblock to higher education is contributing to a serious shortage of potential leaders from the immigrant community, a growing and valuable segment of the Wisconsin workforce. A Milwaukee high school teacher reported in Green Bay recently that seven of the top nine graduates of South Division High School are not attending college this year because, as children of undocumented immigrants, they cannot afford out-of-state tuition. The Wisconsin workforce is being drained of a talent pool that could make significant contributions toward a more prosperous future in our state.

We ask your assistance because:

- All Wisconsin colleges and universities are NOT at capacity. More students will help Wisconsin's fiscal crisis by filling underutilized seats at Wisconsin post-secondary schools.
- Children should not be punished for the immigration practices of their parents.
- Undocumented, immigrants are paying taxes. Justice suggest that students who otherwise would qualify as legal residents of Wisconsin for determining in-state tuition should be given an opportunity to have the access to education that other taxpayers are afforded.
- Wisconsin business and industry needs the skills and talents of a diverse workforce. Emerging employment opportunities will be directly related to our ability to attract and train a diverse workforce, including, importantly, members of the immigrant community.

Several states, including Texas under the leadership of then-Gov. George Bush, have recognized the valuable talent pool afforded by the immigrant community and guaranteed undocumented students access to higher education. We ask that you assist our efforts in assuring a healthy and vibrant economy in Wisconsin by opening the door of opportunity that education so essentially provides.

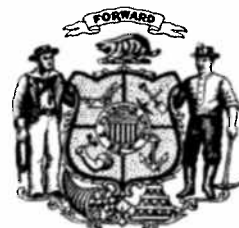
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Linzmeyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being the most prominent.

Paul A. Linzmeyer, Chair
Bay Area Workforce Development Board



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Burri, Lance

From: thomas.list@nmfn.com
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2003 3:18 PM
To: Lance.Burri@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Assembly Bill 95



BDY.RTF

Lance,

My earlier note to Rep. Frank Lasee regarding Assembly Bill 95 came from a deep rooted moral belief that I hold which is that you don't reward a wrong action. The wrong action in this case is illegal entry into our county. This course of action encourages future illegal acts. Illegal acts come with a price, the price in the case of illegal immigration is quite complex, therefore it is more easily obscured as to the actual cost. Allow me to explain myself. If Americans continue to allow illegal immigration to continue we are allowing people other than citizens to dictate how we will govern ourselves in the future. Since these individuals will have been lead to believe that this country views law as a matter of convenience we will have helped to establish a basic disrespect for the law and those who make law. In America we have established a system of law, when the system is respected our society functions more effectively than when it is broken. If the law is wrong and then change it, but until it is changed we as citizens need to respect it, this is especially true for leaders. Being a leader is not defined by popularity, it is defined by doing what is right when it is not popular to do so. As leaders within the State of Wisconsin I would ask that you respect our laws and please restrain yourself from tickling the ears of special interest, although it may be in your interest. The vast majority of this states' population understand the difference between right and wrong, what I ask of you as leaders is to do what is right and vote against Assembly Bill 95 and do not reward illegal acts with your and my tax dollars.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. List
4143 St. Francis Park Dr.
Green Bay, WI 54313



Burri, Lance

From: MillerRC76@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2003 6:21 PM

To: Lance.Burri@legis.state.wi.us

Subject: Re: Naturalization

Thank you for the information regarding citizenship. From what I could gather there seems to be no reason I could find, that becoming a legal citizen of this country should be so difficult.

I answered the sample test questions. Almost everything on there is covered in 5th grade Social Studies by 10-11 year olds. These students may not remember all of that information, but if it meant becoming a legal citizen and studying very hard the information there, I am sure they could do it.

If these people want to be a part of our country, we would welcome them as long as they start out by following the rules set up for all Americans. We would not be helping them by bending the rules. We would also be doing a disservice to all of those students and parents alike who have scraped and saved to pay their way through school with no special privileges granted.

I do hope that this bill never comes out of committee as it will only serve to divide-- not unite-- our people.

Thank you for your time. Connie Miller

10/15/2003



Rep. Pedro Colon
Room 5 North
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

10-20-03

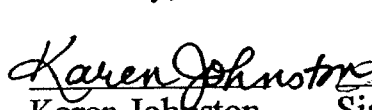
Dear Rep. Colon:


We are asking that you support Wisconsin Assembly Bill 95.

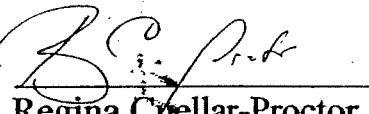
We believe these students should not pay a university tuition penalty because their parents brought them to this country. The parents of these students pay taxes, which support the Universities. We believe the undocumented should have an equal opportunity to benefit from those tax dollars.

Thank you for your interest.

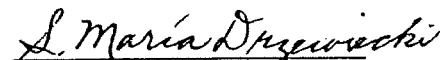
Sincerely,


Karen Johnston


Sister Guadalupe Muñoz


Regina C. Proctor


Fr. Bill Ribbens


Sister Maria Drzewiecki



State Representative Frank Lasee
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

OCT 27 2000

Forward
& file
into Database

Dear Representative Lasee:

I am a constituent of yours, and I am writing to express my opposition to Assembly Bill 95.

Assembly Bill 95 would provide rights to illegal residents and let them take the place of legal students in UW institutions that are already full. As a mother who has sent two children through UW-Madison and has another child who is currently enrolled in Madison, I believe that children of lawfully present parents and guardians should have initial access to our public schools and universities.

If this bill were to become law, people without social security numbers who haven't "paid their dues" would be on the same application footing as children of parents who have worked hard, paid their taxes, and want the best education for their children. I believe this is a misplacement of our priorities. It seems like we should be focusing first on ways to get children of legally present, taxpaying citizens into our publicly supported educational institutions before we attempt to spend tax dollars on children of parents who haven't fully contributed to our system.

In addition, our public universities are already full of young adults who come from families who pay taxes and are lawfully residing citizens. If this bill were to become law, how is the university system going to accommodate additional applicants given that public funding for these institutions is decreasing? Illegal immigrants should work toward becoming legal citizens first, and once they accomplish that, then their children can apply to our publicly supported universities and colleges.

I hope you will make every attempt to oppose this bill. If you have any questions or would like to contact me, please call me at 414-845-5279. Please forward a copy of this letter to Representatives Sheldon Wasserman and Terry Musser.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jan Janowski *Jan Janowski*

Jan Janowski

N 2635 Cty Rd V
Luxemburg, WI 54217



Milwaukee Area Technical College

October 28, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Chair, Assembly Committee on Government
Operations and Spending Limitations
State Capitol, Room 105 West
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

MILWAUKEE CAMPUS
700 West State Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1443
414-297-6600

NORTH CAMPUS
5555 West Highland Road
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092-1199
960-238-2000

SOUTH CAMPUS
6085 South Howell Avenue
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154-1199
414-671-4500

WEST CAMPUS
1200 South First Street
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214-1111
414-466-5500

Dear Representative Lasee:

I write this letter in support of Assembly Bill 95, and hope that Wisconsin joins other states such as Texas, California, Utah, New York and Washington who have seen the value of promoting education to individuals currently viewed as non-residents.

I support Assembly Bill 95 because passage of this bill will benefit students who are academically prepared for college but have limited access. These students should have the same opportunity as any other Wisconsin student to strive for the American dream through their persistence in obtaining an education that will better prepare them to meet the demands of Wisconsin's workforce. In addition, such a bill is good for Wisconsin's college systems.

Therefore, I urge for your support of Assembly Bill 95.

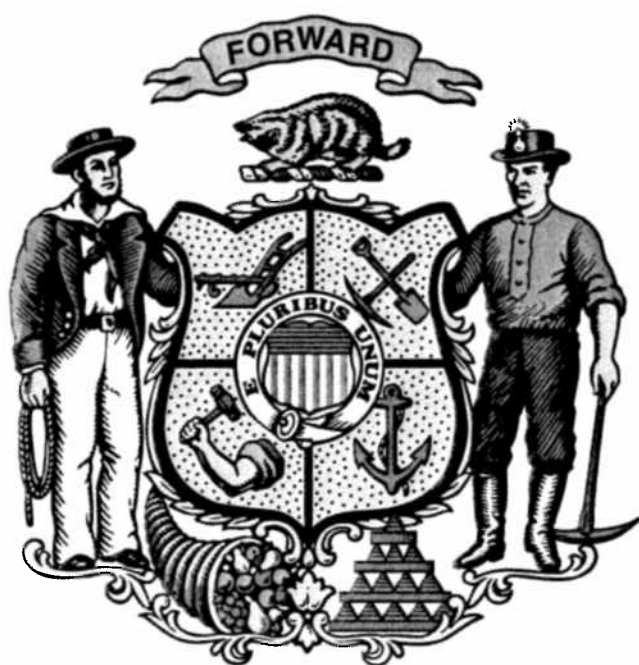
Sincerely



Arturo Martinez

Associate Dean

Office of Bilingual Education





MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JENNIFER MORALES

Board of School Directors
3222 North Cambridge Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
(414) 964-9469
e-mail: jemora@execpc.com

OCT 31 2003

October 28, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
P O BOX 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Representative Lasee:

In accordance with the 1982 United States Supreme Court ruling in Plyler V. Doe holding that a state may not deny school-age undocumented aliens the right to free public K-12 education, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors offer its support for the 2003 Assembly Bill 95. On March 26, 2002, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted a resolution to support any legislation that assists in the goal of creating equal education opportunity by offering in-state tuition rates at University of Wisconsin System schools for all prospective and qualified students, including undocumented students with verified residency.

The 2003 Assembly Bill 95 provides for undocumented children under age 18 in the State of Wisconsin to receive in-state tuition for postsecondary educational opportunities in the University of Wisconsin System schools, in addition to being eligible to receive the public K-12 education to which they have grown accustomed over the last 20 years.

Assembly Bill 95 is essential to ensuring that these undocumented children are properly equipped with the tools necessary to become productive members of society. With approximately 50-65 thousand undocumented students graduating from U.S. high schools each year, leaders, educators, and parents must encourage Wisconsin's children to achieve their dreams by attending college by making this Assembly Bill 95 a law.

Thank you for your continuous efforts in affording all of our children an equal-opportunity education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jennifer Morales'.

Jennifer Morales
5th District Director
Milwaukee Board of School Directors

**JENNIFER MORALES**

Board of School Directors
3222 North Cambridge Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
(414) 964-9469
e-mail: jemora@execpc.com

October 28, 2003

Representative Sheldon Wasserman
P O BOX 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Representative Wasserman:

In accordance with the 1982 United States Supreme Court ruling in Plyler V. Doe holding that a state may not deny school-age undocumented aliens the right to free public K-12 education, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors offer its support for the 2003 Assembly Bill 95. On March 26, 2002, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted a resolution to support any legislation that assists in the goal of creating equal education opportunity by offering in-state tuition rates at University of Wisconsin System schools for all prospective and qualified students, including undocumented students with verified residency.

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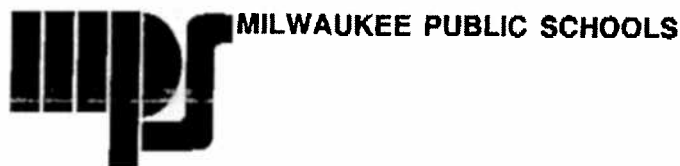
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Thank you for your continuous efforts in affording all of our children an equal-opportunity education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jennifer Morales'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Jennifer Morales
5th District Director
Milwaukee Board of School Directors

**JENNIFER MORALES**

Board of School Directors
3222 North Cambridge Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
(414) 964-9469
e-mail: jemora@execpc.com

October 28, 2003

Representative Becky Weber
P O BOX 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Representative Weber:

In accordance with the 1982 United States Supreme Court ruling in Plyler V. Doe holding that a state may not deny school-age undocumented aliens the right to free public K-12 education, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors offer its support for the 2003 Assembly Bill 95. On March 26, 2002, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors adopted a resolution to support any legislation that assists in the goal of creating equal education opportunity by offering in-state tuition rates at University of Wisconsin System schools for all prospective and qualified students, including undocumented students with verified residency.

The 2003 Assembly Bill 95 provides for undocumented children under age 18 in the State of Wisconsin to receive in-state tuition for postsecondary educational opportunities in the University of Wisconsin System schools, in addition to being eligible to receive the public K-12 education to which they have grown accustomed over the last 20 years.

Assembly Bill 95 is essential to ensuring that these undocumented children are properly equipped with the tools necessary to become productive members of society. With approximately 50-65 thousand undocumented students graduating from U.S. high schools each year, leaders, educators, and parents must encourage Wisconsin's children to achieve their dreams by attending college by making this Assembly Bill 95 a law.

Thank you for your continuous efforts in affording all of our children an equal-opportunity education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jennifer Morales'.

Jennifer Morales
5th District Director
Milwaukee Board of School Directors
October 28, 2003





AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, LOCAL 212

Milwaukee Area Technical College
Affiliated with AFT, WFT, AFL-CIO & MCLC



Executive Officers:

Michael Rosen, Ph.D., President
Marlene Dombrowski, Ph.D., Executive Vice-President

Staff:

Frank Shansky, Director of Labor Relations
Pamela A. Bautch, Administrative Assistant

OCT 30 2003

October 28, 2003

Representative Frank Lasee
Chair, Assembly Committee on Government
Operations and Spending Limitations
State Capitol, Room 105 West
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Lasee,

I strongly urge you to support Assembly Bill 95. Assembly Bill 95 allows certain undocumented students the ability to pay in-state tuition when they attend the University of Wisconsin System. Similar legislation is currently law in Texas, California, Utah, New York and Washington.

If Assembly Bill 95 becomes law, undocumented students would be allowed to pay resident tuition if: 1) they graduated from a Wisconsin high school or received a high school graduation equivalency from Wisconsin; 2) they were continuously present in Wisconsin for at least one year following the first day of attending a Wisconsin high school; and 3) they enroll in a UW System institution and provide the institution with an affidavit stating that they filed an application for permanent residency with the Immigration and Naturalization Service as soon as they meet eligibility.

This bill is about removing barriers that unfairly punish people who have no control over their immigration status. They have spent a large part of their lives as Americans and deserve a fresh start. This bill is fair to the students and also in our National interest, providing an avenue for these students to pay in-state tuition which ensures that they have an opportunity to become successful tax paying members in the State of Wisconsin.

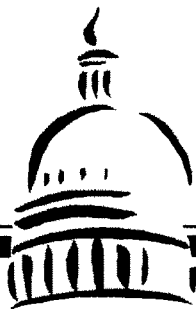
Thank you for your time and, on behalf of Local 212's 1700 members, I encourage you to support Assembly Bill 95.

Sincerely,

Michael Rosen, Ph.D.
President

kmnd/MR
102803KD MR,MD





State Senator

Cathy Stepp

WISCONSIN'S 21ST DISTRICT

October 28, 2003

The Honorable Frank G. Lasee
Chairman
Assembly Committee on Government Operations & Spending Limitations
State Capitol - Room 105 West
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Chairman Lasee:

Thank you very much for holding a public hearing on Assembly Bill 95. Although I am unable to attend the public hearing, I wanted to write to you and your fellow committee members to articulate my views on the legislation.

I support AB 95, which would require the University of Wisconsin System to provide resident tuition to a citizen of another country under certain conditions.

As the state senator of one of the most ethnically diverse districts in the state, I am very aware of the huge economic potential that Latinos and others offer Southeastern Wisconsin and the state as a whole. I fear, however, that the economic conditions of many of these families are precluding them from paying an out-of-state tuition at a UW System institution. This roadblock, in turn, is limiting the educational and economic future of a significant portion of Racine.

The 2000 census found that Latinos comprise 14 percent of the City of Racine and 8 percent of Racine County. I desperately want this growing community in Racine to prosper through entrepreneurship and other means. We all know that economic prosperity begins with educational opportunity. In addition to providing more educational options at the elementary and secondary school level, through innovative charter schools, I also want to ensure that these students have an affordable *post*-secondary education through which to prosper.

We should not penalize the children of parents who have bypassed our country's Immigration and Naturalization Service especially since this legislation requires the children to seek citizenship. Some say that if we enact this legislation, we are only encouraging more illegal immigration. I don't see things that way. I would instead submit that if we *don't* enact this legislation, we are missing an opportunity to encourage people to contribute to our economy as legal citizens.

Again, thank you very much for holding a public hearing on AB 95. I encourage you to support this forward-looking legislation and to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

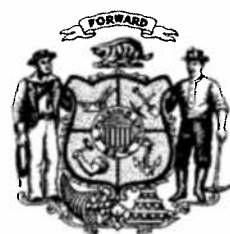
Cathy Stepp
State Senator
21st Senate District

cc: Members, Assembly Committee on Government Operations & Spending Limitations

CS:bjp



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





Latinos United for Change and Advancement **LUChA**

Al servicio de la comunidad latina

Serving the Latino Community

Post Office Box 2033 Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2033

Internet Address: www.geocities.com/madisonlucha

DATE: October 29, 2003

TO: Representative Frank Lasee, *chairperson*
Representative Gabe Loeffelholz, *vice chairperson*
Representative Terry Musser
Representative Becky Weber
Representative Josh Zepnick
Representative Sheldon Wasserman
Government Operations and Spending Limitations Committee
Wisconsin State Legislature

FROM: Alfonso Zepeda-Capistrán, President *AZ*
LUChA

RE: Assembly Bill 95

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on this very important date for the education community in Wisconsin. On behalf of Latinos United for Change and Advancement (LUChA), a community volunteer-based advocacy organization with roots in Madison, I appear before your committee to ask you to support and vote in favor of Assembly Bill 95.

Similar legislation has already been enacted in many other states, including California and Texas. Please join these other states in the fight for an equal and fair chance at an education for immigrant children.

Also at the federal level, members of both parties in both houses of Congress have joined forces in a bipartisan effort to introduce legislation that, if enacted, will benefit thousands of qualified graduating high school seniors with an opportunity to study at an institution of higher education. Just last week, on October 23rd, 2003, the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee overwhelmingly voted in favor of the DREAM Act (S.1545). With over 40 cosponsors, this legislation now has a chance at a hearing before the full Senate. The House version of this bill, the Student Adjustment Act (HR 1684), with over 104 cosponsors, is rapidly gathering support and is still awaiting its chance at committee hearing.

But, why wait for our congressional representatives at the federal level to act when we can start allowing our own graduating seniors here in Wisconsin an opportunity to afford a college

education. The fact that AB95 is conditional upon state residency, Wisconsin high school graduation and university enrollment with conditional filing for adjustment of status with the US Bureau of Customs and Immigration Services gives us a fair indication that only a small portion of all graduating seniors will actually be able to enjoy the benefits it brings. The limited number of students who will benefit from this initiative should not be a burden to anyone, especially when we consider the long-term gains of educating even those few students.

Please join the number of cosponsors of the Assembly and of the Senate who already support AB 95 now and vote YES when it comes before you at the Assembly.

Please contact me at (262) 798-1291 (home), (262) 227-5632 (cell), or via email at president@madisonlucha.org if I can be of any assistance.

Thank you again for this opportunity to address all of you.

cc: Representative Pedro Colón