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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**



Pedro Colón

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

October 29, 2003

TO: Members of the Assembly Committee on Government Operations and Spending
Limitations

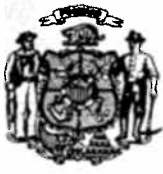
FROM: Representative Pedro Colón

RE: Dispelling the myth that illegal immigrants do not pay taxes or contribute to the economy.

- In July of 2001, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan testified before Congress that “there are great misconceptions that immigrants are a drain on our economy, but many studies have confirmed that the opposite is true. Even undocumented workers - commonly referred to as “illegals” contribute more than their fair share to our great country.”
- Greenspan informed Congress that immigrants, including undocumented workers, in essence donate \$27 billion to state and local economies. This is the difference between what they pay in taxes (\$70 billion) and what they use in services (\$43 billion).
- In Illinois, “illegal workers pay \$547 million in taxes yearly, compared to \$238 million in services used. This is a net “profit” for Illinois of \$309 million.
- Greenspan testified that this is the norm, not the exception, in states where undocumented workers pay taxes.
- A University of Illinois study found that even as undocumented workers paid federal and state income taxes, they did not claim tax refunds for which they were eligible. These unclaimed refunds amount to the donation of billions of dollars to the public coffers.
- The Urban Institute found that undocumented workers contribute \$2.7 billion to Social Security and another \$168 million to unemployment insurance. Due to their legal status, these workers will not be able to access any of these programs.
- In addition to the above tax donations, undocumented workers pay billions of dollars in local and state sales taxes when they purchase appliances, furniture, clothes and other goods.
- A recent U.S. Department of Labor study noted that the notion that immigrants take jobs away from American workers is “the most persistent fallacy about immigration in popular thought.” The reality is that undocumented workers create jobs.

8th Assembly District

- The University of Illinois study found immense spending by undocumented workers. (Their purchasing power in Illinois is \$18.7 billion, according to Greenspan.)
- This is not just about money: Undocumented workers also bring to our society many things we claim to value, such as solid family structure. Studies show that children of immigrants are more likely to be raised in a two-parent household than are children of native-born Americans.
- Thousands of Mexicans crossed the border in volunteer to fight in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. Many were killed, wounded or maimed fighting under our flag and saving American lives.



Pedro Colón

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Testimony in Support of Assembly Bill 95

Assembly Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

State Capitol – North Hearing Room

by

Representative Pedro A. Colón

Good morning Chairman Lasee and Committee Members. Thank you for holding public hearing on an important piece of legislation, Assembly Bill 95 (AB 95). My legislation seeks allow certain undocumented students the ability of receive in-state tuition in Wisconsin's higher education system. Before I explain the details of AB 95, it is necessary to give the committee some background on why this issue is before us today.

In 1982, the United State Supreme Court held in Plyler v. Doe that a state may not deny school-age undocumented aliens the right to free public K-12 education. Their decision was based on the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution. A denial of education of these "out-of-status" children would clearly violate this clause reasoned the court. Thus, for the past 20 years undocumented children under 18 have been eligible to receive public K-12 education.

When it comes to postsecondary education there exists no such right under the equal protection clause for these same undocumented children including the estimated 50-65,000 who graduate from U.S. high schools each year. Currently, conflicting federal and state laws have created a quite inequitable system of treating those undocumented students who wish to pursue a postsecondary education.

Under the "Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996" public colleges are prohibited from charging undocumented aliens in-state tuition rates. It was argued that by allowing undocumented students to receive in-state tuition they would be treated more favorable than out-of-state residents who are U.S. citizens. As a result, the financial burden of paying out-of-state tuition rates places college out of reach for the vast majority of undocumented students. (At UW-Milwaukee, for example, the 2002-03 in-state tuition rate is \$3,738 per year as opposed to \$16,490 for out-of-state residents.)

When Scott McCallum was governor, a bipartisan amendment was adopted by the budget Conference Committee that would have allowed these students to receive in-state tuition. However, the language was ultimately vetoed.

8th Assembly District

In Assembly Bill 95 I am simply asking that these kids be given a chance to reach their dreams of college, explore their full potential and become taxpaying members of our community. My legislation would allow undocumented students to pay resident tuition if: 1) he or she graduated from a Wisconsin high school or received a high school graduation equivalency from Wisconsin; 2) was continuously present in Wisconsin for at least one year following the first day of attending a Wisconsin high school; and 3) enrolls in a UW System institution and provides the institution with an affidavit stating that he or she has filed an application for permanent residency with the Immigration and Naturalization Service as soon as the person is eligible to do so.

This bill is not a unique idea. In fact 7 other states have laws on the books now. And in 2003 17 other states, including Wisconsin, have debated this issue.

Legislation in Other States

Texas (First state to pass legislation.)

- House Bill 1403 – In-state tuition to non-residents who have attended school in Texas for three or more years, graduated or received a GED, and sign an affidavit stating he or she will file an application to become a permanent resident.
- Received almost unanimous support in the legislature – only one vote against.
- The Governor signed the bill.
- Effective – September 1, 2001

California

- Assembly Bill 540 – In-state tuition to non-residents, who have attended school in California for three or more years, graduated or received a GED, and signs an affidavit stating he or she will file an application to become a permanent resident.
- Originally would have allowed these students access to student loans but the Governor would not sign it with that language due to conflict with federal law. It was taken out and the Governor signed the bill.
- Effective January 1, 2002.

Utah

- House Bill 144 – In-state tuition to non-residents who have attended school in Texas for three or more years, graduated or received a GED, and sign an affidavit stating he or she will file an application to become a permanent resident.
- Governor signed the bill on March 26, 2002.
- Effective – July 1, 2002

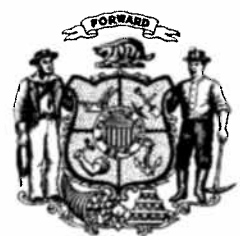
New York

- Legislation originally introduced by Assemblyman Peter Rivera. The bill passed the Assembly and in the Senate, Governor Pataki brokered a deal and incorporated Rivera's bill into his own education plan. The result was that legislation eventually passed.
- In-state tuition to non-residents, who have attended a New York High School for at least 2 years, graduated or received a GED and applied to attend a state university or college within five years or receiving a diploma. An affidavit pledging to apply for legal immigration status as soon as possible is also required.
- Pataki signed this law in the fall of 2002.

Legislation was recently signed into law in Washington, Illinois and Oklahoma.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



October 29, 2003

Committee on Government Operations
and Spending Limitations
State of Wisconsin
State Capital
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Committee Members:

My name is Dr. Javier Tapia, and I am a professor in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. I also serve as the president of the Association of Latino/a Anthropologists in the United States of America. My areas of expertise are in the field of education and in Latino studies. At the university I teach courses in "The Education of Hispanics" and "Educational Issues in Spanish-Speaking Communities."

I have conducted research (for over ten years) studying the factors that shape Latino students learning and academic performance. The academic achievement of Latino students is shaped by economic, social, cultural, and linguistic factors. However, the most important variable for improving academic achievement is access to education. Thus, we cannot improve the education of Hispanic students if they do not have access to education. Today we take a step in the right direction by supporting Bill 95.

For the last three years I have worked very closely with government officials at the state and at the federal level in order to improve the educational conditions of Latino students. I mentioned to these officials that Latino families consist of documented and undocumented people. And by providing access to the university to immigrant students we enhance the overall well-being of the Latino community and of the State of Wisconsin.

Working closely with community activists like Camille Solberg and Christine Newman Ortiz I have learned that I need to take my knowledge and expertise on Latino students directly to government officials. I cannot teach the bright and best Latino students because they can not attend the university. I encourage you to help me do my job by supporting Bill 95. The job of government officials is to provide equal education opportunities to all students. Immigrant students are key for the future growth of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,
Javier Tapia
Dr. Javier Tapia

Ed. Policy & Community Studie

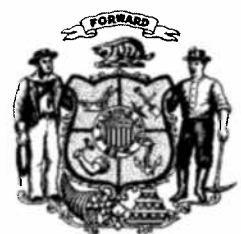


Enderis Hall • PO Box 413 • Milwaukee, WI 53201

414 229-4323
FAX 414 229-3700



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



St. Norbert Abbey



NOV 03 2003

October 30, 2003

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

Dear Representative Lasee:

I was happy to attend the public hearing on Assembly Bill 95 yesterday. As chair of the Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations, I would like to thank you for holding the hearing and allowing us to speak.

I was impressed by the quality of questions and personal courtesy of the committee. I felt that all members were genuinely interested in the bill and sought to give those in attendance a fair say.

This is obviously a complex issue and I am sure that the committee will be doing a lot of soul searching in the coming days. I remain a strong supporter of the bill and ask that the committee avails itself to as many voices as possible when making its next decision.

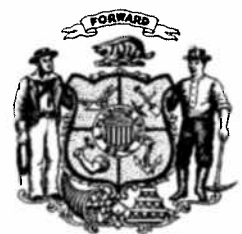
Sincerely,

Brother Steve Herro, O. Praem.

Brother Steve Herro, O. Praem.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOSH ZEPNICK
WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

File

November 6, 2003

Chairman Frank Lasee
Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations
Room 105 West
State Capitol

Hand Delivered

Dear ~~Chairman~~ Lasee:

I would like to thank you for holding a public hearing on AB 95 on October 29th. As a co-sponsor of this bill I appreciate your willingness to work in a cooperative and bi-partisan manner on this issue.

Thank you again, and I look forward to working with you on other issues that come before the Government Operations and Spending Limitations committee.

Sincerely,

Josh Zepnick
State Assembly, 9th District

JZ: nh



The U.S. Hispanic population is the 5th largest in the world. Many are undocumented and the state of Wisconsin excludes them from higher education.

They come to contribute to the economy, plant roots and build better lives for their families. Instead of recognizing their contributions, buying power and entrepreneurial spirit, some politicians are afraid to face the facts of the changing demographics and their effect on our state economy. Today, fifty percent of all children five years old and younger in the United States have Latino surnames.

In the future, if you want to sell things and go where the growth is, about half your market will be people in their 50's and the other half will be the Hispanic and Asian population.

Wisconsin is changing. Many undocumented students will turn into undocumented workers. What kind of workforce does Wisconsin want? How many companies will continue to ignore the human rights of the undocumented workers that they employ? What kind of quality of life does Wisconsin want?

These students are from my community. They will not be contributing at a higher level to Wisconsin's economy.

- María - She graduated from high school in the top 25% of her class. She served as the literacy coordinator for elementary ESL children through the youth branch of Rotary. She will not be able to follow her dream of being a bilingual elementary teacher. She cannot afford the tuition.
- César – He was a successful Advanced Placement Government student ~~in fourth year in the United States while dominating well the English language~~. He had political dreams, but he was unable to afford the tuition to continue in higher education and pursue a career in political science. Six years after graduating, he is still working in a plastics factory. *for more go to*
- María – She moved to California three weeks ago. She was a senior at a local high school with a B+ grade point average. She has dreams of becoming a lawyer to advocate for those who cannot speak for themselves due to the language barrier. She moved to California so that she has the opportunity to pursue her dream. California passed the in-state tuition legislation for immigrant students.

- Julio – He won many awards for his graphic arts designs in state competitions. He will be missing from the state advertising agencies. He cannot afford the instate tuition. He is landscaping.

These children were brought to our communities by their parents. These children had no choice. Now, they are graduating from our high schools, many with special talents to address the changing future of our state.

The United States is sending the children of immigrants to fight the war in Iraq, some have died for our country, for freedom and justice. Some of those soldiers who gave their lives were undocumented. The United States accepted them into the military, please tour children into the higher education institutions at the same tuition rate as resident students.

Education, literacy and training make a productive, innovative Wisconsin. We support and need AB 95 to open the doors to all children.

I urge you to support this needed legislation in the state of Wisconsin. Study the demographics and the changing face of America. If we do not allow these children to access higher education, our state's economy will suffer. Let's work towards a highly educated Wisconsin that can capitalize on the changing marketplace.

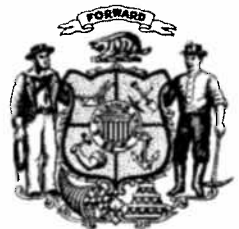
California, Texas, Utah, New York, Washington, Oklahoma and Illinois have already passed this type of legislation.

States with legislation under consideration in 2002-2003: Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

(<http://www.ncsl.org/programs/immig/tuition2003.htm>)



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



774 Winding Tr.
Oneida, WI 54155
September 14, 2003

Rep. Frank Lasee
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

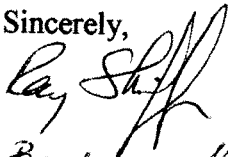
Dear Rep. Lasee,

We were pleased that you took time out of your busy schedule to attend the Public Hearing on AB 95 last Tuesday. We were also very impressed with your spirit of openness and your willingness to listen.

We want to thank you for agreeing to give AB 95 a hearing, and we would ask that you also allow a vote on this Bill.

As educators, we support AB 95 because it opens doors of opportunity for many bright and gifted young people to follow their dreams and become better equipped to benefit communities throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,



Barbara Shiffer

Ray and Barbara Shiffer





ASM International Students Campaign

Room 511 Memorial Union, 800 Langdon Street
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706
608.265.4276 (phone) 608.265.5637 (fax)

iscampaign@hotmail.com or <http://www.sit.wisc.edu/~isc>

Co-Chairs: Suri Kempe & Jack Vinijtrongjit



Support Assembly Bill 95

- Currently, undocumented students are paying out-of-state tuition
- These students are not eligible to receive financial aid, student loans, and also not eligible for most scholarships
- As a refugee to the United States, the families of these students left their own countries without a choice and had to start a new living here. Therefore out-of-state tuition may not be financially affordable for them.
- In order to be eligible, students must have graduated from a Wisconsin high school (or received an equivalent degree from the state), be continuously present in the state for at least one year after the first day of high school, enroll in an institution and provide it with an affidavit stating he/she will apply for permanent resident status with the INS.
- Higher Education is a right and it should be accessible to anyone.
- Higher education will give these students an opportunity to improve the quality of their own lives and will raise the living standards of their families and communities.
- Therefore, investment in these students will be an investment in the future Wisconsin and American residents.

Therefore we urge you to support this Assembly Bill 95



Representative Frank Lasee
1735 Keehan Lane
Bellevue, Wisconsin 54311

Dear Representative Lasee:

We are very concerned about the future of Assembly Bill 95, providing "in-state tuition" rates for immigrant youth. The measure is reasonable, compassionate and prudent. Similar measures have been supported around the country by Republicans (including President Bush) and Democrats. AB 95 has strong bi-partisan support in Wisconsin.

We are mostly concerned that you have refused to even schedule a hearing for this important bill. At the very least, you owe it to the legislature and the people of Wisconsin to have the merits of AB 95 debated in the open. If you disagree with the policy, vote "no," but give your colleagues the right to hear the facts and vote.

Sincerely,

Michael Juntre

(name)

Delna Hall

Dr. Michael Kadon

Baerly Neller

Shirley Deed

Karon Bankow

Jan Tomney

Joel Gresh

Tom Clark

1127 Lake Ave Racine WI 53403

(address)

205 E 4 Mile Racine WI 53402

2006 Huron Dr. Manitowish, WI 54221

612 Monroe Ave Racine WI 53405

242 Merriman Lane Racine 53402

5748 Cambridge Circle 53406

2922 Charles St. 53402

2509 91st St Pleasant Pr.

1102 Hamilton St Racine WI 53404

Representative Frank Lasee
1735 Keehan Lane
Bellevue, Wisconsin 54311

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Sincerely,

(name)

(address)

Jean Dorman

1116 A S. Main St 53403

Lois Vanderbeken

819 Park Ave, Racine 53403

Shirley A. Reynolds

1924 Park Ave; Racine, WI 53404

Tednie Ross

1018 Harmony Drive Racine WI 53402

Lucia Stengel

1612 N. Main St. Racine 53402

Carolina Schlenker

8620 113th Ave Pleasant Prairie 53288

Rosa Salinas-Hullman

1905 Ehlerst St. Racine, WI 53405

James E. Wolbeck, Jr.

4612 ERIE ST RACINE, WI 53402

Representative Frank Lasee
1735 Keehan Lane
Bellevue, Wisconsin 54311

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Sincerely,

Thomela Anderson
(name)
Carol Elsholz
Jo Ann Franke
Eleanor Franke
Maria Morales
Thomas Aquil
Robert S. Venzl
Russell Bohn
Harriet L. Bohn
Joel L. Lambe
Richard Kinch
John Heckenroth
Mary Lou
Mary Constance
Ann Kerker

1102 Hamilton St 53404
(address)
509 Wauville Dr. 53109
5000 Graceland Blvd 53406
5000 Graceland Blvd 53406
952 N. Memorial Dr. 53404
952 N. Memorial Dr 53404
5002 7th. Av. 53410
712 Cleveland ave Racine 53405
712 Cleveland Ave Racine 53405
3112 BARBARA DR RACINE, WI. 53404
1612 N. Main, Racine 53402
410 Seventh St, Racine 53403
26th Street milw. 53201.
2124 Blake Avenue, Racine 53404
718 Lake Ave, Racine 53403

These are all Racine
unless otherwise stated.

Representative Frank Lasee
1735 Keehan Lane
Bellevue, Wisconsin 54311

These are all members
of St Patrick Catholic Church,
a member of Racine Intergroup
Coalition and WISDOM.

Dear Representative Lasee:

We are very concerned about the future of Assembly Bill 95, providing "in-state tuition" rates for immigrant youth. The measure is reasonable, compassionate and prudent. Similar measures have been supported around the country by Republicans (including President Bush) and Democrats. AB 95 has strong bi-partisan support in Wisconsin.

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Sincerely,

Barbara Rose
(name)

4614 Spring St., Racine, WI 53405
(address)

Kathryn R. Hainen

10021 7 mile Rd Caledonia 53108

Kenn D. Ingelder

3039 Hickory Grove Ave. WI. 53403

Jessie Ann

2718 Santa Fe Trail #2, Racine, WI 53404

Sara A. Penkhus

5228 Lela Ln Racine WI
53406

Tony Friedel

1102 Monroe Racine, 53405

Mary Kay Friedel

1102 Monroe Racine 53405

Margaret Nelles

612 Monroe Ave Racine WI 53405

Robert Nugent

1203 N. Sunnyslope Dr. Racine, WI 53406

Phyllis Heinew

4007 19 St. Racine, WI 53406

Elaine A. Fogarty

3800 Anshutzon Ave Racine WI 53403

W. Peter Fogarty

1800 Grand Ave Racine, WI 53403

Susan Klein

1800 GRAND AVE RACINE WI 53403

Rosemary Lewis

1247 Villa St. Racine, 53406

Connie H. Molbeck

1819 College Ave Racine WI 53403

4612 Erie St. Racine 53402



THE PREMONSTRATENSIAN FATHERS

ST. NORBERT ABBEY

1016 North Broadway

De Pere, WI 54115-2697

Fax: 920/337-4328

TELECOPY COVER LETTER

DATE: Oct. 27, 2003

TO: Andy Janssen

FIRM/COMPANY: Wisconsin Assembly - Rep Colon's Office

FAX NUMBER: 608-282-3608

FROM: Steve Herro

COMMENTS:

Per our conversation last week, here are signatures that two of us collected in our churches and religious communities in

support of AB 95. ^{Can} I ask that you ^{photocopy} ~~copy~~ ^{each} ~~each~~ page for each member of the Govt. Oper. and Spending Limitations Committee?

Total Number of Pages (including cover sheet): 9

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES OR HAVE ANY PROBLEMS RECEIVING THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL Steve Herro AT (920) 337-4345.

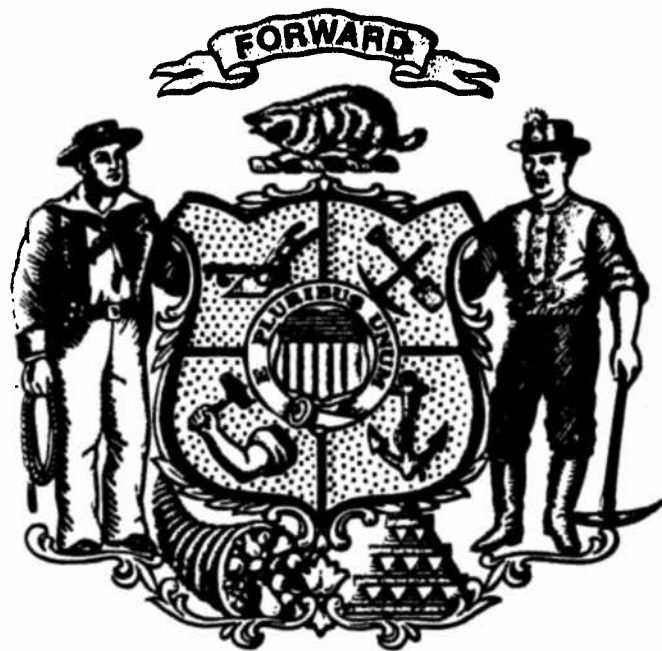
October 26, 2003

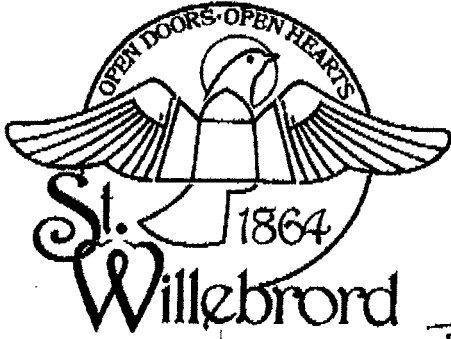
Dear Member of Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations:

We, the undersigned members of Old St. Joseph's Parish on the campus of St. Norbert College in De Pere are supporting Assembly Bill 95. We ask you to support this bill in committee and before the entire Assembly. Wisconsin's undocumented workers and their children deserve the right to in-state tuition for a number of reasons:

- We believe that justice and equality dictate that all persons in Wisconsin who have graduated from our secondary system and are paying taxes to enhance life in our state deserve equal access to in-state tuition rates for public post secondary education.
- We believe that allowing more immigrants, especially Spanish speaking persons, easier access to our fine post secondary education system would strengthen our state work force, help grow the Wisconsin economy, and increase the income tax base in our state.
- We believe that making higher education more possible for undocumented workers and their children would cut the degree of social services needed by these persons.

Name	Address	City
Bern Williams	1010 Robert St.	De Pere
Marion Denis	2581 Beaumont	Green Bay
Rose Jensen	163 Bryan St	Green Bay
ELEANOR BROSTEAN	430 GRANT ST	DE PERE
Brenda Beck	250 Fox Ridge Ct	DePere
Kate Whitman	Ste 2327 100 Grant St	De Pere
Marie Boe	600 S. St St	DePere
Jenny Boeckman	527 N Ontario St	DePere
Peter Mellina	100 N. Front St Apt 115	DePere
Joseph Gregorich-Jellens	280 Prairie St. / Grant	Green Bay
Lynn C. Kellman	446 Cook St	De Pere
Robert Boyer	1216 Outward Ave	De Pere
Marie Johnson	446 Cook St.	DePere
Jim Hill	Ste 723 100 Grant St	DePere
John Mason	1595 Whisper Lane Grand	West Bend
Mike Frank	957 Suburban Dr	DePere
Chris Franken	957 Suburban Dr	DePere
John Franken	1330 Cedar St.	DePere





RE. AB95

DATE: 10/27/03 Time: 10:00 am

FAX TO: Andy Janssen at Fax # 1-608-282-3608

FAX FROM: St Willebrord Parish, 209 S Adams St, Green Bay WI 54301
Phone: (920) 435-2016, Fax: (920) 435-2039 - Melanie Maczka

Total Pages: 4 (Including this cover sheet)

Please let me know if these are readable. We have 2 more sheets out being signed + can be faxed Tues. am. if that's OK.

October 26, 2003

Dear Member of Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations:

We, the undersigned are supporting Assembly Bill 95. We ask you to support this bill in committee and before the entire Assembly. Wisconsin's undocumented workers and their children deserve the right to instate tuition for a number of reasons:

- We believe that justice and equality dictate that all persons in Wisconsin who have graduated from our secondary system and are paying taxes to enhance life in our state deserve equal access to instate tuition rates for public post secondary education.
- We believe that allowing more immigrants, especially Spanish speaking persons, easier access to our fine post secondary education system would strengthen our state work force, help grow the Wisconsin economy, and increase the income tax base in our state.
- We believe that making higher education more possible for undocumented workers and their children would cut the degree of social services needed by these persons.

Name	Address	City	
JANET PRUNTY	5151 River Oaks Dr	De Pere WI	54115
Maria I. Tavera	371 S. Van Buren St.	Cap. WI	54301
Oscar DeAmbo	" " "	" " "	
Maria DeAmbo	" " "	" " "	
Miller G. Tavera	" " "	" " "	
Daniel Garcia	331 S Van Buren St Green Bay WI	Green Bay	54701
Marisa G. Garcia	" " "	" " "	
Janis Garcia	1267 1/2 Chicago St. Green Bay WI	Green Bay	
Carolina Bacelis	483 S Webster Ave. Apt. 217	Green Bay	
Ireland M. Fiscal	1119 Service Rd. Oneida WI 54155	Oneida	
Enrique Fiscal	1119 Service Rd. Oneida WI 54155	Oneida	
Julio Zuniga	1267 Chicago St.	Green Bay	
Luz M. Fiscal	2700 Freedom Rd.	De Pere	
CARLOS ALMENDARIZ	412 FOREST ST.	Green Bay	
Fernando Bacelis	433 S Webster Ave.	Green Bay	
Idorine Hernandez	433 S. Webster Ave apt 217	Green Bay	
DAVID CLENDENES	1016 N. Broadway Av	De Pere	
Ruben Santana	545 Henry St.	Green Bay	
JOSE G. LOPEZ	1164 CHICAGO ST.	GREEN BAY	
Pauline Wood	N. 9913 Hwy 57 Sundersky		54717
Kenneth J. DeLoe	209 S. Adams St.	Green Bay	
Andre Wood	830 Brookridge St	Green Bay	
Lecelle Wood	142 Canal Way	De Pere	
Carol Cunningham	1424 Admiral Ct Apt. 89	Green Bay	
Mark Tracy	1336 Lindok	Green Bay	
Julie Verrey	1501 12th Ave	Green Bay	
Juan Villalobos	900 ROYAL BLVD	Green Bay WI	54303
Juan Lopez	905 Rayburn	Green Bay	54303
Amari Marline	2070 St. Joseph	De Pere	54115
Carilo R. Jr.	1901 Eastmarket	De Pere	54115
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Greg		De Pere	54115

October 26, 2003

Dear Member of Committee on Government Operations and Spending Limitations:

We, the undersigned are supporting Assembly Bill 95. We ask you to support this bill in committee and before the entire Assembly. Wisconsin's undocumented workers and their children deserve the right to instate tuition for a number of reasons:

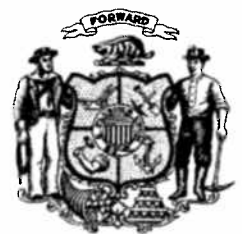
- We believe that justice and equality dictate that all persons in Wisconsin who have graduated from our secondary system and are paying taxes to enhance life in our state deserve equal access to instate tuition rates for public post secondary education.
- We believe that allowing more immigrants, especially Spanish speaking persons, easier access to our fine post secondary education system would strengthen our state work force, help grow the Wisconsin economy, and increase the income tax base in our state.
- We believe that making higher education more possible for undocumented workers and their children would cut the degree of social services needed by these persons.

Name	Address	City
Melanie Macyska	1365 University Ave	Green Bay
Norma J. Hilky	1363 Carrington LN	De Pere
Jean Warden	237 Laurel St	Green Bay
Gudith Wood	461 Polaris Rd	Green Bay
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Lloyd Protsch	1289 Division St	Green Bay
John Havelka	1420 Lynwood Ln	Green Bay
William David	3874 UPWLANEN RD	Green Bay
Anna Planski	1144 Cooks Green St	Green Bay
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Kerison M. Ovey	838 Schaaf Pl	Green Bay
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Steve Barmentien	1115 Chapel Hill Circle	Green Bay WI 54303
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 MARTHA SILVA " " " " "



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Access for Immigrant Students

Assembly Bill 95 Factsheet

Provided by United Council of UW-Students

Problem:

Every year, many of Wisconsin's brightest high school graduates are prevented from pursuing dreams of a college education and a better future because they are unable to afford the cost of non-resident tuition. These students, many of whom are valedictorians, honor students, class presidents, or student leaders, have had to overcome numerous barriers in order to succeed. It is estimated that tens of thousands of undocumented students graduate from high school each year (National Immigration Law Center). Due to changes in the federal immigration law in 1996, undocumented students are denied access to in-state tuition benefits and federal and state financial aid, thereby making it nearly impossible to finance their college education. In addition to not being able to receive federal and state financial aid undocumented students are also ineligible for most merit based scholarships, because they require proof of citizenship. **Most immigrant students were brought to this country as young children and have lived here almost their entire lives.** They have no control over their immigration status. The 1996 law unfairly punishes students who rely on their parents for their immigration status.

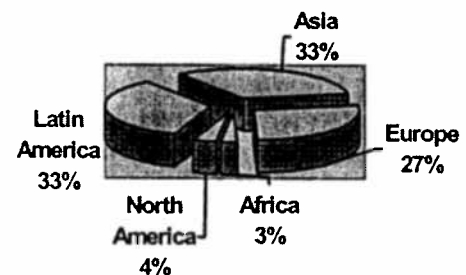
Wisconsin Facts:

- There are 195,000 immigrants in Wisconsin, according to the 2000 census
- Immigrants make up 3.6% of Wisconsin's Population
- 85% of immigrant families with children are mixed status families (families where at least one parent is a non-citizen and one child is a citizen).

Solution:

Remove the barriers to education and work for immigrant students. California, New York, Texas, and Utah have already passed such legislation. Currently, Wisconsin is one of 18 States considering legislation that would increase access to higher education for immigrant students.

Where do Wisconsin's Immigrants Come From?



More education means greater income and more contribution in taxes and to the economy.

Median Earnings in 2000

Professional Degree	\$80,230
Doctorate	\$70,476
Master's Degree	\$55,302
Bachelor's Degree	\$46,276
Associate Degree	\$35,389
Some College	\$32,400
High School Grad	\$28,807

Assembly Bill 95

AB95 is bipartisan legislation pending in Wisconsin. It is sponsored by 3 Republicans and 7 Democrats. AB 95 would make immigrant students who have been in Wisconsin for at least one year and who graduate from a Wisconsin high school or receive their GED in Wisconsin eligible for resident tuition. Currently, immigrant students are required to pay out of state tuition, even if they have been in Wisconsin most of their life.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

What exactly does AB 95 do?

AB 95 would make immigrant students who have been in Wisconsin for at least one year and who graduate from a Wisconsin high school or receive their GED in Wisconsin eligible for in-state tuition. It does not make immigrant students eligible for financial aid or scholarship programs.

Is there similar legislation at the federal level?

Yes. The federal legislation is titled the D.R.E.A.M. Act in the Senate and the Student Adjustment Act in the house. The federal bills would make immigrant students eligible for in-state tuition, provide expedited citizenship for immigrants with "good moral character," and make immigrant students eligible for financial aid and scholarship programs. However, the bills do not guarantee immigrant students in-state tuition--they only allow it. That is why AB 95 is so important.

We are in a budget crisis, how can we afford this?

AB 95 would dramatically reduce dropout rates, with resulting substantial savings in criminal justice costs and use of public benefits. Additionally, it would sharply increase the amount of taxes paid by those who qualify. These fiscal contributions will pay back the educational investment within 3-4 years by conservative estimates, and thereafter taxpayers will continue to profit for decades to come. A recent study by the RAND Corporation found that doubling the number of Latino's who earn a bachelor's degree in the U.S. would require an added investment in public education of 6.5 billion dollars, but "would yield about 13 billion dollars" in benefits, consisting of "5.4 billion in reduced public spending for social and health programs and 7.6 billion dollars in increased tax contributions."

Won't this bill encourage more "illegal" immigration? Won't this bring more immigrants to Wisconsin?

According to a study by the National Immigration Law Center (NILC), benefits such as welfare and health insurance were not found to drive migration patterns. "Between 1995-2000, the number of immigrant families with children grew four times faster in states with the least generous safety nets like Arkansas and Texas than it did in states with more generous safety nets for immigrants like California and Massachusetts. Furthermore, according to NILC immigrants use "benefits" at significantly lower rates than citizen families.

Aren't immigrants a drain on the economy?

Immigrants are taxpayers, why should they be denied access to programs that their taxes support? The National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council concluded that, in 1997 alone, the U.S. reaped a \$50 billion surplus from taxes paid by immigrants to all levels of government. Furthermore, the study found that without the contribution of immigrant labor, the output of goods and services in the U.S. would be at least \$1 trillion smaller than it is today. Lastly, the study found that the total net benefit to the Social Security system if immigration levels remain constant will be nearly \$500 billion for the 1998-2022 period and nearly \$2 trillion through 2072.

Why are we giving special benefits to immigrants who have broken the law?

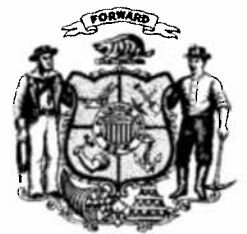
AB 95 is recognition of the fact that immigrant students did not have a say in the decision to come to the U.S. These young people deserve a fresh start, both in fairness to them and in our national interest. It is wrong to hold immigrant students fully liable for an immigration status that was derived from their parents. They should not be legally precluded from the achievements that they are able to earn by their own talent and hard work in the land where they were raised. AB 95 would give immigrant students who have already faced many educational barriers an opportunity to excel like their classmates. Lastly, many of the immigrants who would benefit from this law are in the United States legally. Under a similar law in Texas less than 30% of the immigrant students who receive in-state tuition are undocumented.

How would AB 95 benefit Wisconsin and the UW-System?

In *Plyer v. Doe*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that K-12 schools may not discriminate based on immigration status when a student is seeking to enroll. Meaning, Wisconsin must educate immigrant students through the 12th grade. Enabling immigrant students to continue their education would allow the state to capitalize on the investments we've already made in K-12 education and help the UW-System with its efforts to increase diversity.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





Hello my name is Elizabeth
I recently graduated from
high school with a 4.00 GPA
before I graduate, a Wisconsin
University offer me a full
scholarship for law school. My
long term-goal is to become
an immigrant-lawyer.

I came to the United
States when I was 12 years
old most members of my
family are citizens. Right now
I am in process but I have
to wait approximately 10 years
due to the long term process.

I'm attending a technical
college because this was the
only resource felt for me to
do. My parents with struggle
and sacrifices are going to pay
\$13 thousand dollars in two
years so I can at least get an
associate degree.





I am extremely involved in my community. All the organizations that I have worked with vary greatly which has given me the opportunity to work with people of different ages and beliefs. Throughout the work that I have done, I have learn the importance of getting a collage education.

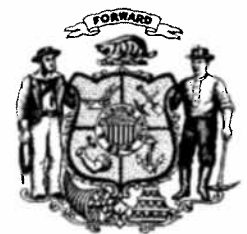
I know that the best way I can help this people is by defending their rights as a lawyer. In addition I want to be a positive role model for others my age, by showing them that anyone can overcome obstacles and stereotypes and succeed at anything they decide to do.

Thank you for your Support





WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





Good Morning,

Thanks for allowing ^{me} to speak in front of you.

My family have reside in the State of Wisconsin for the past 25 years. Many of my siblings as a right now are citizens of United States and current taxpayers of this state. I ~~correctly~~ ^{am} in the process ^{of obtaining documents} ~~to my~~

Due to my sibling petitions, but the current legislation and back log in the emigration service takes up to 10 years

I lived in the state and graduated as number 25 of 275 student in my high school. I worked hard to obtain the best gp, because I had have the hope to attend to an University and be the first of my family of twelve. At my senior year I realized that I did not have the opportunity like my classmates, and even though I have taken most of the advance courses ^{such as AP English AP Calculus}

As I graduated I had to start to work for a living since I need it to depend on my own. I finally could start into a private college ^{with the help of} working 3rd shift and sometimes 2nd shift ^{and order to attend college} as parttime student @ Bachelor of International Business management ^{and minor in math} and so far completed 4 semesters.

Becky

Because of the high tuition^{rate} on the private sector, and ~~no~~ trying of making living, I had to make the difficult decision to ~~drop~~ suspend my education.

Currently I volunteer as youth coordinator in Voces de la Frontera - Workers Center, in the Access to Higher Education for Immigrant Student, I had the privilege to be representative for ~~my~~ the organization but an honor to represent my community whom Voces aren't being heard and make sure that our contributions are respected. ~~As you know no question are asked to when to pay ~~over~~ our contributions, to ~~over~~ ~~over~~~~
I look up to your leader

Next, Even though I can not participate in the democratic process to right to vote I will volunteer for my family and other members of my community to participate ~~and~~ and vote in the next election.

~~Therefore I will~~
In my behalf of my family we look up to your leadership to change reform and recognized our contribution of to the State of CA.