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My Testimonial  
**Opposing HB 2466** Before The Committee on Judiciary

My Name is Claudia A. Yaujar Amaro, I am a resident of Wichita Kansas, and I am an undocumented who was brought to the United States of America at the age of twelve, who learned to love this country, this flag and this culture. I have a family with mixed status, as my mom is a U.S. Resident, my sisters and my son are U.S. citizens and because of the broken immigration system it is not that easy for me to become part of this country as I will like to be. It is hard for me to explain to you, as I do not even understand my present status. I am legally in this country but I am still undocumented. Let me try to explain, my husband was deported 10 years ago after being in contact with authorities, of course immigration officers and media criminalize us for any reason, as they are to use their discretion on every case, just like you want it to happen with this bill. After my husband was deported I decided to go with him and my U.S. citizen son to Mexico, but that wasn't home anymore, nor for me, or my son. After my husband being kidnapped by police officers in Mexico who knew we had family in the United States, we decided to come back home; in July of 2013 I presented myself to the border with my son and other dreamers, and requested humanitarian parole in order to come back to what we consider our home. After 17 days in detention I was released to continue with my asylum case from Wichita with my family. My husband did the same and stayed in detention for 2 years and 3 months in order to come back home in Wichita and reunite with my son and me, you have no idea how hard it has being especially for my son.

You can't imagine the pain my son had to endure all those years far away from home; because when these deportations happen you are also deporting U.S. citizens, who are the future of this country, you are taking away all tools for their development, their own government are turning their backs on them. Most of the immigrant families in Kansas have mixed status, and deportation causes a lot of pain, and thorn families apart.

The enforcement of HB2466 will increase the fear in our communities, our kids will loose all trust in authorities; people will be afraid to report a crime; and cities will become more dangerous. The enforcement of this bill will cost a lot of money to the State on trainings, equipment perhaps more officers, and my question is, what difference will it make? Wouldn't this policy create more pain and losses than any positive effects?

This is a copy of what has been implemented on other States, similar to what is called the law “show me your papers” it is actually legalizing racial profiling, and will create an environment of hate and intolerance among citizens, and of course the final goal will be to deport as many people as possible, even hardworking people who have contributed to this State some of them for more than a decade.

Do you know how much the State of Kansas will lose if all unauthorized immigrants were removed? According to previous studies, it will lose about 1.8 billion in economic activity, it will also lose about \$807 million in gross state product, and roughly 12,000 jobs. Almost 88% of Kansas’s children with immigrant parents are U.S. citizens, if you deport their parents after the implementation of this bill, are you planning on also deport them all? Or will the State of Kansas take care of all of their needs?

Now, let’s talk about the contributions of all of us; immigrants are responsible for 7-8% of the Kansas Economy, in fact the counties with more Latino population are the wealthiest in the State.

Other states like Georgia, Indiana and Arizona who had pass similar legislation have reported millions in losses after the enforcement of policies like those.

Questions I have for you, Why are you afraid of us? We are part of this State, we love this place, and our kids love their home. Why do you want us to face racial profiling? All we want to do is work, being able to give our kids a decent life. We are friends, we are not enemies, we do not want to destroy your home, because it is also our home.

Give us the opportunity to integrate without fear; give yourselves the opportunity to know who we are. I am a legal undocumented, who has two jobs, pay taxes, is raising a U.S. citizen with values and dreams. Give my community the opportunity to integrate just like your ancestor did it just to give you guys a better life.

I will like to finish with a quote from President George Washington in 1788: “I had always hoped that this land might become a **safe and agreeable asylum** to the virtuous and persecuted part of mankind; to whatever nation they might belong.”