

January 6, 2017

Constituent comments regarding Senate Bill HB17-1134, "Colorado Politician Accountability Act."

Hello. My name is Ingrid Moore. I live in Longmont and have traveled here today to speak to you about HB-1134

This bill "creates" a crime.

It is based, in part, on Trump's Exec. Order dated January 25 regarding sanctuary cities. The Exec. Order is probably unconstitutional and will almost certainly be challenged in court. The EO and the bill being heard here today are not appropriate remedies for the problem of undocumented immigration.

A more appropriate solution would be for the US Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation that allows for refugees to legally emigrate from dangerous countries, provides for sufficient numbers of guest worker visas, and modernizes tracking of those with visas.

And what about holding employers who hire undocumented immigrants responsible? If enforcement were to be directed at these employers, the uproar would guarantee immediate immigration reform legislation.

This bill "declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. But according to those who are charged with protecting public safety, this bill would do just the opposite.

Others here today are speaking to those issues, such as loss of trust in law-enforcement, fear of reporting real crimes, trauma to children who fear attending school, fear to seek medical help. It just creates fear in general.

Qualified people will not run for office.

Cities could lose potential new residents and/or businesses.

Everyone wants to live in a community that reflects their morals and values.

When you require people to somehow identify whether their neighbor is undocumented and then turn them in, it's reminiscent of tactics used in dictatorial regimes who threaten people into turning in neighbors, friends, and even family members. This is wrong. It changes the dynamics of a community and causes an almost certain unravelling of that society.

How big a problem is crime committed by immigrants? Good data is scarce. But here are some facts:

Most research indicates immigrants actually commit crime at lower rates than native-born citizens.

A Cato Institute Study done this past September, 2016, covering a 41-year period (1975 through the end of 2015)

estimates that the chance of being murdered in an attack committed by an **illegal immigrant** is an astronomical 1 in 10.9 *billion* per year.

We also have to be wary of those who use those fear to manipulate anxieties: like politicians who play to peoples' fear about crime to win elections, even as crime is declining.

This bill is unnecessary, probably unconstitutional, and attempts to solve a problem that doesn't currently exist in Colorado. I urge you to reject this bill.

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## Terrorism and Immigration

### A Risk Analysis

BY ALEX NOWRASTEH

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**T**errorism is a hazard to human life and material prosperity that should be addressed in a sensible manner whereby the benefits of actions to contain it outweigh the costs. Foreign-born terrorists who entered the country, either as immigrants or tourists, were responsible for 88 percent (or 3,024) of the 3,432 murders caused by terrorists on U.S. soil from 1975 through the end of 2015. This paper presents the first terrorism risk analysis of the visa categories those foreign-born terrorists used to enter the United States.

Including those murdered in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 (9/11), the chance of an American perishing in a terrorist attack on U.S. soil that was committed by a foreigner over the 41-year period studied here is 1 in 3.6 million per year. The hazard posed by foreigners who entered on different visa categories varies considerably. For instance, the chance of an American being murdered in a terrorist attack

caused by a refugee is 1 in 3.64 *billion* per year while the chance of being murdered in an attack committed by an illegal immigrant is an astronomical 1 in 10.9 *billion* per year. By contrast, the chance of being murdered by a tourist on a B visa, the most common tourist visa, is 1 in 3.9 million per year. Any government response to terrorism must take account of the wide range of hazards posed by foreign-born terrorists who entered under various visa categories.

The federal government has an important role to play in screening foreigners who enter the United States, and to exclude those who pose a threat to the national security, safety, or health of Americans. This terrorism risk analysis of individual visa categories can aid in the efficient allocation of scarce government security resources to those categories that are most exploitable by terrorists. The hazards posed by foreign-born terrorists are not large enough to warrant extreme actions like a moratorium on all immigration or tourism.