

Connecticut General Assembly
Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
March 1, 2016

SB-147 An Act Concerning Students Without Legal Immigration Status with the Cost of
College

My name is John Chunis. I live at 40 Deerfield Run, Rocky Hill, CT. I am testifying against this bill.

While I am unable to attend the Public Hearing, I would like my opinion to be considered.

This bill is bad for Connecticut. Any seat taken by an illegal immigrant, is one that could be filled by a student born and raised in Connecticut. There are hundreds of inner city kids who would love to be able to attend college but any illegal immigrants that would fall under this bill would prevent those US citizens, and residents of Connecticut, from achieving that dream.

The State of Connecticut, as well as all of the Connecticut Public Colleges, are in dire financial conditions. We can not afford to further burden our education system and taxpayer funded programs by illegal immigrants. Our natural born residents come first, but unfortunately, we can't even meet their needs.

Furthermore, we need to develop policies that discourage illegal immigrants from coming to live in the State of Connecticut. This bill does the opposite. We need to start thinking about meeting the needs of our own inner city poor people who deserve a chance on improving their lives. We have a lot of "Dreamers" already living in Connecticut, they are called US Citizens. It is morally and politically wrong to ignore them while letting illegals compete with them for financial assistance and take the few available seats in classrooms.

Please do not pass this bill.

Thank you for considering my opinions.