

Written Testimony of Mac Franklin on HF1163

My name is Mac Franklin, I'm 17, and am a junior currently attending the Academy of Holy Angels. I also work at Target in Highland Park and at the Pool and Yacht Club in Mendota. Before high school, I had the privilege of going to school at Highland Park Middle School near where I live in Saint Paul. I've had the opportunity to manifest so many friendships throughout the past couple of years. A number of my close friends, colleagues, and peers are immigrants from many different countries and backgrounds. One of the most glaringly obvious challenges I have seen illegal immigrants face is the turmoil that is transportation. Without proper licensing, illegal immigrants are not able to efficiently get to work or other places. Especially during the pandemic, public transportation is not always an effective option. If illegal immigrants could get properly licensed, and then effectively get to work, Minnesota's economy would thrive, among other numerous economic benefits. Immigrants, themselves would thrive with an increased revenue stream. It is mutually beneficial for the state and the immigrant to license illegal immigrants.

Sincerely,

Mac Franklin