

June 9, 2017

State House
24 Beacon Street, Room 167
Boston, MA 02133

H.3269 / S.1305 - An Act to Protect the Civil Rights and Safety of All Massachusetts Residents

Chairman, Distinguished Legislators,

I am the Chairman of my Ward in Quincy, and have been a Republican activist for many years, supporting local, state, and national candidates, as well as a number of state-wide ballot initiatives. I am also on the state board of directors for two state organizations. I am the State Chaplain of the Massachusetts Faith and Freedom Coalition having 1.3 million Americans as members [nationally].

I got involved in fighting against the recent push for Quincy to become a Sanctuary City, for which we were successful (that's the letter I handed you that I sent to my City Councilors and published state-wide [Boston Broadside, March 2017, Page 3]). I believe the definition of "Sanctuary" has become incorrectly synonymous with protecting the supposed rights of criminal non-citizen illegal immigrants from facing the penalty of the law. I am not against immigration, I just want to see the laws meant to protect the rights of the rest of the citizens enforced.

I believe that the proper definition of "Sanctuary" is protection from a tyrannical federal government for its citizens, not for non-citizens. This is the proper application of the 10th Amendment of The Constitution of the United States. Massachusetts has already recently become a Sanctuary State as concerns marijuana, because the people of Massachusetts believed that the federal government making it illegal violated the liberty of its people, its citizens. I voted for it, even though I've never smoked, because I agreed with the people. This federal law, making marijuana illegal, was not in The Constitution, so it is up to the states or the people, but ultimately the people, and the people decided. Again, for citizens, not for non-citizens, and by the way, protecting our borders is in The Constitution.

I do not blame the illegal immigrant, because the illegal immigrant is going to do what the illegal immigrant is going to do. I totally blame the government, and the policy of its lawmakers to not follow the law. Now it doesn't matter why, whether employers want cheap labor, or states want to increase their populations for future votes, tax-payers, and a higher percentage of U.S. House seats, or for the anti-American goal of mixing populations to ultimately erase the borders to create a one-world global utopia, the fact is that they are here.

I personally know of the existence of illegal immigrants in my Ward who have lived for many years in fear of their lives that they'll get rounded up in the middle of the night and deported, but it is squarely the government's fault [because they wouldn't have otherwise been here]. Now I don't pretend to have the solution; it is up to the government who caused this problem to solve this problem, and at this stage in the game, I don't believe that the solution is to "round 'em all up and ship 'em home," but it would also be completely wrong to make things worse by making Massachusetts a Sanctuary State for non-citizens. I therefore urge the Committee to oppose this bill.

Thank you.

Steve Tougas
Republican Chairman, Ward 4, Quincy, MA
Vice President, Congressional District 8, Massachusetts Republican Assemblies
State Chaplain, Massachusetts Faith and Freedom Coalition Affiliate