

ATTACHMENT

For Item

22

Tuesday, December
5, 2023

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK
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From: henkinp@earthlink.net
To: [Council District 4 - Monica Montgomery Steppe](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [Vargas, Nora \(BOS\)](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#)
Cc: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] ENDING TAXPAYER FUNDED DEPORTATION DEFENSE FOR CRIMINAL NONCITIZENS (please include with agenda item 22)
Date: Thursday, November 30, 2023 9:23:21 AM

Hi Supervisors,

It's not like these people are actually all criminals.

Most countries act on a 'guilty-until-proven-innocent' basis. It is heartless and un-American to deport anyone if they are, in fact, innocent, and they should be given a chance to prove it while not in jail.

The question should not be whether they have these awful prior convictions, but have they served their time and are now good citizens.

Do we really want to deport someone like Success Story 2 in the report, whose crimes were 10 years ago, and interfere with him supporting his family (welfare might be more expensive, too)? And we'd lose any contributions he might make to society.

Also, while awaiting deportation, if in some kind of detention, prisoners in this country probably have access to more resources to prove their innocence, if they are.

So I agree that the CAO should research and report on the Immigrant Rights Legal Defense Program (IRLDP) in these areas:

- a. the specific criminal convictions that would disqualify an individual from becoming a U.S. citizen. And keep in mind that what qualifies as a particular crime might vary between countries, both in type and seriousness;
- b. if any IRLDP participants have any of these types of convictions on their record;
- c. a list of the exact convictions, and how many convictions, for each individual.

However to suspend work on defending someone who might be innocent is mean spirited and un-American.

Regards,

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