

I am testifying today on behalf of all Angel Families who have been affected by illegal alien crime. But today, specifically, I am addressing the pain, suffering and loss brought to American families after sanctuary policies prohibited ICE detainees to be honored, resulting in illegal alien criminals being released into our communities and committing criminal acts.

Until one of you who support sanctuary policies or any elected official shoving these sanctuary policies on us, are directly affected by illegal alien crime, you will never understand the depth of pain, grief and hopelessness they create. These policies are not put on a ballot for voter approval, they are put in place without Voter approval.

Many people have been convinced by politicians and special interest groups that sanctuary policies keep our communities safer. Nothing could be further from the truth. Just ask our Law enforcement officers. I've talked to men and women on the front lines from Virginia to Arizona, Texas to Montana, and they know the danger of releasing criminal illegal aliens into our communities and neighborhoods.

Americans are being victimized and left behind by the very officials they voted into office, and who made an oath to protect and uphold the law—this includes immigration law. Everyday, Americans are being marginalized as collateral damage by this incredibly dangerous mindset that criminal illegal aliens deserve above-the-law protections while they remain illegally present in our country.

My son, Brandon Mendoza, was a sergeant with the Mesa AZ police department. On May 12, 2014 he was on his way home from work when a repeat criminal illegal alien more than three times the legal limit drunk and high on meth, drove over 35 miles the wrong way on four different freeways in the Phoenix area before slamming head on into my sons car going over 100 miles per hour. This illegal criminal had committed crimes in Colorado years before and never showed up for court. He was caught crossing the border from Mexico, taken back to sanctuary Colorado to face his charges, was given a slap on his wrist and released by the judge. He ultimately ended up in Arizona killing my son.

In November 2018 Aaron Hampton was shot more than 25 times by a repeat offender, criminal illegal alien in Springfield, Missouri. ICE had a detainer on Luis Perez and had requested Middlesex County, New Jersey hold him for deportation proceedings following his arrests for felony crimes including assault, aggravated assault and child abuse. Had the ICE Detainer been honored, as every detainer should be, Aaron Hampton would be alive today.

Make no mistake: Luis Perez is a repeat offender, criminal illegal alien from Mexico who has no legal right to live in our country. Mr. Perez committed crimes and was not only shown leniency, but shielded from repercussions for his actions by the government of New Jersey. I ask of this committee: would I be shown the same leniency had I broken federal law? Would any state in this union protect me or any other American from being detained, arrested and prosecuted by the federal government? We all know the answer: a resounding, no.

In July of 2019, Jonathan West Jr was on his way home from work on his motorcycle in Richmond, California when Jocelyn Escobar, an illegal alien, turned in front of him. He landed on her windshield and was thrown 10 feet into a pole. Jonathan died nine days later. Today, his killer is walking free in California because of sanctuary policies while Jonathan's mother, Geiselle, lives her biggest nightmare everyday.

An unlicensed, uninsured criminal, who entered our nation illegally is currently being protected from facing her responsibilities under federal law due to these reckless sanctuary policies passed by politicians who serve and protect themselves.

American citizens have to pay for their crimes. But repeat offender, criminal illegal aliens are being protected by the governments who exist to serve and protect American citizens and legal residents.

No matter your political affiliation, ideology, or party loyalty: imagine your child... dead, gone, separated permanently due to the criminal, reckless and sometimes evil actions of someone who never had any right to be here in the first place. Someone whose crimes could have been prevented had federal laws not been skirted by dangerous sanctuary policies we're seeing across this country.

Today, I ask all of the members of this committee: think about your loved ones, think about Americans, think about our loss, think about fairness under the rule of law.