



League of United Latin American Citizens

March 16, 2017

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U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization, I write to express our support for the *Protecting the Rights Of Families and Immigrants who Legally Entered from Detention (PROFILED) Act*. With the increased arrests, detentions, and profiling of Latino immigrants, strong protections are needed to ensure the integrity of our immigration enforcement system.

Sponsored by Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ), the *PROFILED Act* would prohibit law enforcement agencies at all levels of government from unlawfully detaining and deporting people who are legally present in the United States, including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents based on the perceived or actual ethnicity or national origin. Additionally, it also aims to protect the due process rights and apprehension procedures for vulnerable populations and families with children. Finally, it would rescind the Administration's recent immigration executive orders on interior and border enforcement blocking the construction of a divisive, ineffective, and costly wall on the U.S. – Mexico border.

The narrative of a violent and insecure border has long been used by political extremists as a guise to push forward anti-immigrant, anti-border, and anti-environment legislation. This is the case, despite the fact that data show that border cities are some of the safest in the country; that immigrants are less likely to commit crime than the general born population; and that places with more immigrants are likely to be safer than places with less immigrants. As such, the wall, the militarization of the border, the criminalization of immigrants, and the destruction of habitat are all tools of radical politicians who are intent on advancing an agenda that has nothing to do with the security of our border.

The *PROFILED Act* takes overdue steps to bring accountability, transparency, and integrity to our immigration enforcement and detention system. LULAC strongly urges you to support the *PROFILED Act* and any other legislation that aims block the construction of a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, and addresses the current issues with our immigration enforcement and detention system. For more information, please contact Luis Torres, Director of Policy and Legislation, at latorres@lulac.org.

Sincerely,

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President