

Chairman Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the Government Oversight Committee,

My name is Mackenzie Doyle and I am the Justice Promoter from the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Ohio who is opposed to House Bill 42.

The sisters I work for have long served children by educating them for almost two centuries in Cincinnati specifically. Sr. Blandina Segale was someone who specifically reached out to and educated recently arrived children from Italy in the 1880s (many likely without proper documentation). She educated them without having to check or care about their immigration status. This is to illustrate just how long we have been educating children no matter where they come from. Our sisters have also served the community in health care, opening hospitals like Good Samaritan in Cincinnati and serving everyone, once again not checking for immigration status.

This bill will change a long standing precedent to educate and to care for all who come seeking safety to this country by putting their data at risk. This will cause children and families to fear sending their children to school, seeking help to find a job to support their families, or reporting any crime against them.

Moreover, this bill is trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist. There are already numerous strict qualifications to access public benefits like Medicaid that bars noncitizens from applying. Instead we should focus on preventative measures like addressing hunger, access to healthcare, and housing inequality.

Schools and service agencies alike will tell you stories of how fear of immigration enforcement has contributed to low enrollment and reduced participation in life-saving programs. Many organizations in our community have worked hard to build trust and provide a safe environment for families to access the services they need and are legally entitled to.

Lastly, all this bill does is put another burden of reporting on agencies that are already facing intense pressure and being cut from funding both at the federal and state level. They will likely have less staff to devote to this data collection. As a former police officer myself, the amount of information that police officers have to collect is already a lot with limited time. Moreover, good policing is built on community trust, and if the community does not trust the police, then a lot more issues will result from lost trust that cost the state more money. And numerous studies have shown that noncitizens are less likely to be arrested for crimes than than US citizens, so this data collection again seems unnecessary and puts people's data at risk for no purpose.<sup>1</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,  
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<sup>1</sup> <https://siepr.stanford.edu/news/mythical-tie-between-immigration-and-crime>