



HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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October 21, 2013

Via First Class Mail

Congressman Chris Van Hollen
1707 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Immigrant Stories in Support of Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Dear Congressman Van Hollen:

On behalf of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia (“HBA-DC”), we write to share with you a collection of stories and a photography exhibit on immigrants living in the United States. These stories have been compiled pursuant to your request made during the Hispanic National Bar Association’s annual Legislative Day in May 2013.

Consistent with our mission to promote equal justice for all Hispanics, the HBA-DC encourages reform of our nation’s immigration laws and efforts to address our undocumented immigrant population. These stories and photography exhibit illustrate the serious need for immigration reform in this country. Indeed, the difficulties we encountered while attempting to collect these few stories are indicative of the fear shared by our undocumented population. The stories both personalize the challenges and hardships endured by millions of individuals living in this country and highlight the contributions they make to our country when they are allowed to fully participate in their communities.

We hope you find these stories compelling and that they help you as you work to ensure that the House passes legislation pertaining to comprehensive immigration reform that is fair and feasible, particularly in light of the Senate’s recent passage of S.744. If we can be of further assistance to your office in its efforts on this topic, please reach out to us. The President of HBA-DC, Mr. Jaime Areizaga-Soto, can be reached at president@hbadc.org.

The HBA-DC is a non-profit organization established in the District of Columbia in 1977 and our membership includes several hundred lawyers practicing in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area, Latino students attending law schools, and other non-lawyers who join as associate members. The HBA-DC is affiliated with the Hispanic National Bar Association. We thank you for your leadership and commitment to the continuing work in Congress towards comprehensive immigration reform.

Very truly yours,

Jaime Areizaga-Soto
President