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Natalia Francisco Lopez
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Dear Legislators:

I am here today to testify to your committee regarding the legislation S1747, the “Driver’s License Access and Privacy Act” and why it is so important for me and our communities. This bill would allow undocumented New Yorkers to apply for a Standard Driver’s license. For me personally it is very important to have access to a drive license because of my son’s medical condition that requires me to travel outside the city I live in. Sometimes I can’t find someone to drive me back and forth to his appointment so then I must cancel and reschedule it. It affects his health when I miss his appointment. My son, who is a US citizen, is at an age where he can get a driver license but, because of his medical health condition he can’t. If I had a driver license it would make me feel safer and more confident that he will not miss any appointments. I also have 3 more children in grade school that sometimes get sick and I can’t get them from school to the doctor’s right away until I find a ride. I know there are other families in the same or worse situations where just getting a license would make our lives easier and more independent.

Also, allowing undocumented people to obtain driver’s licenses would bring many economic benefits to our state. It is estimated that it will generate around 57 million dollars annually for state and local governments, and just on taxes and fees it will generate around 26 million dollars in one-time revenue. It will also help our people save on car insurance. It will help us build a greater trust with local officials. It will make our road and communities safer because all persons applying for a standard driver license will go through all exams and understand the traffic laws.

Thank you for your time in hearing my necessities of a driver’s license.

Sincerely

Natalia Francisco Lopez
Member of Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson

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