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## **Protect the Rights of Immigrant Children ... And Their Parents.**

Education is my passion and my profession. I know that in providing young people with the skills they need – to work, to parent, to participate in our democracy – we strengthen our nation. Our schools' primary job is to educate every student that walks through the door – regardless of immigration status.

Kids don't get to decide their place of birth or citizenship. Many children who now live in the U.S. were born in countries crippled by war, drug cartels, natural disasters, or repressive governments. When they walk into our schools, they should be able to do so free of fear. They should be able to focus on learning. They should not fear being forcibly removed from school, separated from their parents, or treated as criminals.

As an educator, as a parent, I will work in Hartford to ensure that Connecticut's response to federal actions on immigration enforcement are legal, just, humane, and protective of children.

I will work to protect immigrants' basic rights – to due process, to legal counsel – because these rights are no different for immigrants, under the Constitution, than they are for U.S. citizens.

As your representative in Hartford, I will support the civil rights of all members of our society, including immigrants and especially their children.

Why?

Because when it comes down to it, I absolutely believe that all children are our children.