



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MATTHEW R. CROUCH</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>202-329-0329</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>HERITAGE ACTION FOR AMERICA</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE DIRECTOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>1519 TRUMPET CT.</b>		
CITY: <b>LIBERTY</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64068</b>
EMAIL: <b>matthew.crouch@heritageaction.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 1:10 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Testimony of Matt Crouch, Missouri State Director Heritage Action for America January 30, 2024 Supporting: HB 2489 Submitted to the House Special Committee on Innovation and Technology Chairman Perkins and Members of the Committee, Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in favor of House Bill 2489. My name is Matt Crouch and I represent Heritage Action for America, a grassroots organization with two million grassroots activists nationwide, including thousands of Missourians. Heritage Action urges the House Special Committee on Homeland Security to pass HB 2489. Due to radical open-border policies and the current border crisis, Missouri and states across the country are bearing the consequences of illegal immigration like never before and as a result, are facing an unprecedented security and health crisis. Since January 20, 2021, over 8 million illegal migrants have crossed our borders from over 160 countries, including at least 1.7 million known "got-aways," and 250+ individuals on the terror watch list. Our open southern border also acts as a freeway for fentanyl into Missouri's cities and towns. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), 70,601 Americans died from fentanyl poisoning in 2021 alone, a 25% increase from 2020. In Missouri, there have been 4,257 deaths due to non-heroin opioids like fentanyl since 2020. Missouri can protect its citizens from the devastating consequences of our open borders by passing HB 2489 - The Immigrant Employment Registration and Taxation Protection Act. This legislation would: Protect the jobs of Missourians. This bill would ensure that only legal immigrants are employed in Missouri. Protect Missourians from serious crime. This bill would revoke immigrant work privileges in the event they commit a felony. Protecting Missouri tax dollars. Illegal immigration is costing taxpayers billions every year, and one of the chief incentives for illegal immigration is the promise of employment in the United States. Our nation was built on the principle of law, and the toll illegal immigration takes on our communities is too serious to ignore. Missouri must do its part in defending its citizens by passing HB 2489. Thank you for your time and attention on this important issue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 11:48 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am Opposed to this Bill at this time. This Bill is NOT ready for "Prime-Time," needs Amendments, much discussion and debate.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRAD JONES</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>619-3077</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>NFIB (NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS)</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>308 E. HIGH</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>Brad.Jones@nfib.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 9:31 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**Small business owners don't need another thing to do. They are already swamped with State and Federal paperwork. This bill certainly will add to the list.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GABBY EISSLER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>920-627-5996</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA</b>		TITLE: <b>CO-DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5021 ADKINS AVE.</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63116</b>
EMAIL: <b>gabby@ifcla.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/27/2024 8:24 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Dear Honorable Committee Members, On behalf of the Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America and the individuals and congregations we represent, I urge this committee to reject HB 2489. HB 2489 would mandate all employers and business entities to participate in E-verify and would create a registry of all immigrant workers with work authorization in the state. We at IFCLA are seriously concerned about the way HB 2489 will negatively impact workers in Missouri, including those who have work authorization. From October 2005 to March 2019, E-verify has given tentative non-confirmation responses to approximately 760,000 workers who are lawfully present, including 179,103 people who received final non-confirmations that cost them a job. These individuals were eligible to work in the United States but were barred from working due to mistakes in the spelling of names, the use of a married name, or other database discrepancies. These grave mistakes disproportionately affect people who follow non-Western naming practices and women who have gone through marriage-related name changes. There is also a lack of sufficient due process provisions to support individuals who are wrongly denied by the system. Almost half of the workers who received non-confirmations from E-verify lost partial or complete days of work. Many of these workers were also forced to make multiple trips to a Social Security Administration office and wait in long lines to correct their records. Not only is the process burdensome for workers, it can also be dangerous. Employers have been noted to use E-verify as an excuse to obtain information about their workers during wage negotiations, block efforts by workers to exercise other labor rights, and to shift towards and engage in worker exploitation and off the books operations. The demand for unauthorized workers will not go away with this bill. Instead it will have the adverse effect of pushing some individuals further into the underground economy and decreasing the state's tax payroll revenue. Arizona, for example, enacted a law that requires every employer to enroll in E-verify and creates state penalties for employers that do not comply. Unscrupulous employers, however, have found ways around the system. They have moved their operations off the books into the underground economy. A year after Arizona's law was passed, income tax collection dropped 13% from the year before, while sales tax dropped much less. Analysts concluded that workers weren't paying income taxes but were still earning money to spend. The Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America is also concerned about the privacy issues associated with the Immigrant Employment Registration and Taxation Protection Act. Why are we creating a registry of immigrant workers who have work authorization? Why are we expanding the surveillance arm of the government? Registries, like the one being proposed, diminish the privacy of Missourians. HB 2489 will hurt Missouri workers, not fix our nation's immigration concerns, and so, I urge you to reject this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration, Gabby Eissler Co-Director and Community Organizer Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America (IFCLA)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JORDAN KADOSH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ADL (ANTI DEFAMATION LEAGUE)</b>		TITLE: <b>REGIONAL DIRECTOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 16141</b>		
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63105</b>
EMAIL: <b>jkadosh@adl.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 9:45 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Jordan Kadosh and I am the Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League’s Heartland Office. As you may know, ADL is a leading anti-hate organization committed to fighting antisemitism and bigotry of all kinds. Representing a community that has experienced the plight of living as refugees throughout its history, we have long advocated for fair and humane immigration policies. Additionally, we are a leading non-governmental trainer of law enforcement with a particular expertise when it comes to exposing anti-immigrant and anti-refugee hate. I urge you to oppose HB 2489. It is a deeply problematic bill that targets our immigrant and migrant community. From the attacks against “sanctuary cities,” which follow specific policies and practices that keep local police out of federal immigration enforcement with the aim of building and maintaining trust with immigrant communities, to the creation of a state registry based on immigration status – HB 2489 erodes community cohesion and safety. Such strict penalties and the required enforcement would be burdensome to public safety officials. Further, these kinds of registries have historically been the precursor to mistreatment of marginalized populations by their own government. We are a nation of immigrants. Demonizing a group of people whose immigration journey is more recent than others is hypocritical and a waste of this distinguished body’s precious time. Respectfully, Jordan Kadosh Regional Director, ADL Heartland



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHERINE TOKASH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>katherine.tokash@slu.edu</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2024 2:39 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

To: Special Committee on Homeland Security, Missouri House of Representatives From: Katherine Tokash  
 Re: Opposition to HB 2489 Date: January 29, 2024      My name is Katherine Tokash, and I am a public health student at Saint Louis University with an interest in policy and immigration law. As a young person working and living in Missouri, I urge this committee to reject HB 2489 and its provisions. This bill has the potential to harm small businesses and municipal economies in Missouri, as well as strengthen hostility towards the valued and critical labor provided by individuals with immigrant status. For the sake of simplicity, I do not intend to break down every single line of the proposed bill. Rather, I would like to highlight the subsections of the bill I find most concerning.

Beginning with section 285.535, I am troubled by the concept of requiring private employers and business entities to enroll in the proposed federal work authorization program and the suspension that follows if not compliant. While large public employers and businesses may have the resources to maintain compliance with this bill, a smaller or family business may not. The paperwork and verification mentioned in this section may not be as simple as it looks in the few lines of this bill - these actions would impact real small-business owners, who could already be struggling in terms of resources and profits. If a singular private employer was unable to comply (for whatever resource-restricted reason possible) within just 15 days, the provision of this bill states that all permits and licenses would be revoked. As a student with three jobs, all of which support my living expenses, any entity I work for could be shut down within the provisions of this bill. Not only would this harm qualified citizen employees, but qualified employers as well. The potential for businesses to have permits and licenses revoked over the ability to comply with this bill causes more harm than good.

Section 285.545 also raises questions. The concept of a "qualified immigrant worker" is not as black and white as this bill paints it to be. Each immigrant who is authorized to apply for a work permit, receive a social security number, or otherwise accept employment has a different pathway or story. Without framing my testimony in a "What about....?" manner, the subsection of 2(2a-2c) does not allow for an exhaustive list of those with immigrant status who are qualified to work. In particular, as a university student, many of my peers possess an F-1 visa and may choose to be employed through on-campus opportunities, Curricular Practical Training (CPT), or Optional Practical Training (OPT). This is just one example of a type of qualified worker not explicitly mentioned in this bill. It makes me wonder - in order to maintain and build a database of every possible scenario for qualified immigrant workers, what will the cost be for the state of Missouri? Finally and perhaps most importantly, subsection 11(3) of 285.545 reads like a way to further criminalize and persecute small businesses and employers. The ability of a state official, business entity, or state resident to submit a complaint about a business and the verification of its immigrant workers simply appears to be a mechanism for hatred. Reading this section, I would immediately become worried for any establishment that doesn't sell cheeseburgers and baseball hats. This provision gives any resident the ability to file a state complaint

towards a place that sells Mexican cuisine, Vietnamese Pho, or Korean barbecue if they so choose. While the last sentence of this subsection reads "A complaint that alleges a violation solely or primarily on the basis of national origin, ethnicity, or race shall be deemed invalid and shall not be enforced" - how would this be verified? These complaints have the potential of unraveling into mere hearsay against a "concerned" Missouri resident and a qualified immigrant worker. Why open up the floor for anyone in Missouri to meddle with the employment processes of a business entity? To the committee - while I only addressed particular sections of this bill, I hope you are able to qualify the personal opinions of a concerned citizen like myself. While I know members of the committee hold varying beliefs on the rights of immigrants when it comes to employment, I hope the logistical arguments I presented today allow for reflection. I appreciate the work you all do as representatives, and I thank you for considering my personal testimony on HB 2489. With appreciation and gratitude, Katherine Tokash [katherine.tokash@slu.edu](mailto:katherine.tokash@slu.edu)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>PHILLIP ARZEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-3511</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY</b>		TITLE: <b>LOBBYIST</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>428 E. CAPITOL AVE.</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>RAY MCCARTY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-2246</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT/CEO</b>
ADDRESS: <b>3234 W TRUMAN BLVD</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL: <b>rmccarty@aimo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 12:17 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**Associated Industries of Missouri is opposed to the provision of this bill that requires all employers to use EVerify. While the vast majority of employers that regularly hire people use the system, small employers and those that do not hire on a regular basis must complete a new educational session and test before they may use the system, creating a barrier for such employers. We are also opposed to the vicarious liability of a contractor for subcontractors that employ illegal workers, suspension of business and other licenses for 3 months instead of 14 days for violations, the class D felonies for employers, and mandating employers report information to the new central immigrant worker database.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SAGE CORAM</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-669-3425</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>906 OLIVE ST., #1130</b>		
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63101</b>
EMAIL: <b>scoram@aclu-mo.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/30/2024 6:25 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Dear Honorable Committee Members: Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today. On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and our approximately 15,000 members statewide, I would like to express our strong opposition to HB 2489. This bill both expands work authorization verification to private employers and business entities while also establishing a second registry of qualified immigrant workers within Missouri. The impact of this harmful bill will increase burdens on both employees and employers, increase second violation punishments for employers to a class D felony, and increase surveillance of immigrant workers who are lawfully present. While E-verify has been used in Missouri before, E-verify has been found to be unreliable, inaccurate, and an ineffective program. Workers injured by data errors need a means of quickly and permanently resolving data errors, so they do not become presumptively unemployable. HB 2489 lacks sufficient due process provisions to aid workers who are wrongly denied the right to start their next job. This bill presents a flurry of concerns about privacy, cost, and discrimination. We urge you to vote no on HB 2489 to protect the privacy and due process of Missourians and qualified immigrant workers. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2489</b>		DATE: <b>1/30/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Innovation and Technology</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>Onesuegibson@protonmail.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/27/2024 2:48 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			