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Faith Sandler

February 3, 2015

Karissa Anderson  
Saint Louis University, anticipated May 2015  
Education Policy Intern with The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

Testimony Regarding House Bill 187

House Bill 187 will undoubtedly launch Missouri backwards. Missouri is in  
drastic need of an educated workforce and all Missourians should be able to contribute.

The students targeted by this bill are smart, hardworking, dedicated, and have been  
attending Missouri schools for as long as they can remember. These are students with  
dreams of becoming doctors, scientists, and educators. Barring them from public  
education benefits is a gross injustice to the students, their families, and our state.

If Missouri is going to consider itself competitive in degree attainment, we  
should work towards making higher education more accessible – not moving  
backwards and restricting access. These students simply wish to make a better life for  
themselves and their families. Students under deferred action status have taken great  
strides towards becoming citizens of this beloved state. What better tool to accompany  
citizenship than education?