

Strangers No Longer

Drive Safe Advocacy Week



May 19th thru May 25th

Advocacy Week – Why Are We Here?

It's all about the legislation called "DRIVE SAFE," allowing immigrants to get Drivers' Licenses and/or State ID's, regardless of their immigrant status.



Miembros de SNL con la representante Helena Scott

Advocacy Week – What Should You Do?

Activity #1
Identify your Michigan representative and senator, based on your home address.

Activity #2
Phone and email your MI Representative and your MI Senator.
Use the scripts provided.

Activity #3
Schedule and Attend legislator's meeting/coffee hour.
Use fact sheet provided.

Activity #4
Tell us how you did!
Easy form provided.

Advocacy Week – What Should You Do?

Strangers No Longer Drive Safe Advocacy Week Starts Now!



If you are receiving this email---then you registered for Advocacy Week or attended either the Assembly for Human Dignity on December 9th or the Drive Safe Advocacy Day on February 28th or BOTH!

Welcome to Drive Safe Advocacy Week! We are so thankful to have you work with us this week!

Starting Today (May 20th) please start working on this list of activities:

(By the way, you don't have to do all these activities all in one day--you have a whole week! Any questions? Email: strangersnolonger11@gmail.com)

We sent this to you on Friday, May 19th . If you can't find it in your email, let us know at strangersnolonger11@gmail.com

Activity #1

Identify your Michigan representative and senator, based on your home address.

- Find your Michigan Representative: <https://www.house.mi.gov/>
- Find your Michigan Senator: <https://senate.michigan.gov/>

Activity #2

Phone and E-mail your MI Representative and your MI Senator.

- A sample script to call your legislator. [Click here](#)
- A sample script to e-mail your legislator (if they are already in favor of the bill). [Click here](#)
- A sample script to e-mail your legislator (if they are undecided). [Click here](#)

Activity #3

Meet with your Legislators

- Call your legislators' offices to find out the dates of the next meetings/coffee hours with constituents. If none are scheduled, make an appointment to meet with each legislator.
- Email SNL (strangersnolonger11@gmail.com) with the date and time of the meeting. Once you let us know, we will send you the list of SNL members in your district/parish. Email them and invite them to attend the meeting with you.
- At the meeting/coffee hour, use the fact sheet as you talk to the legislator. [Click Here](#)

Activity #4

Let us know about what you did

We have created a form to track our activities. As you complete an activity, please submit one of these forms. **We will keep us all informed of what is happening as the week progresses.** [Click here](#) for the reporting form.

Activity #1 – Find Your Legislators

- Find your Michigan Representative: <https://www.house.mi.gov/>
- Find your Michigan Senator: <https://senate.michigan.gov/>

For both use your home address.

Activity #2 – Phone Script

Sample Script for Phone Calls

Hello, my name is _____ and I live in your district in _____. I am a member of Strangers No Longer, a Catholic based, state-wide, non-profit organization advocating for the rights of immigrants in Michigan.

I am calling today to urge _____ to vote in favor of (fill in either House bills 4410, 4411 and 4412 or Senate bills 265, 266, and 267.) These bills will restore the right of individuals who can prove their identity to obtain a driver's license or state ID regardless of immigration status. This right existed prior to 2008.

Voting for these bills is the right thing to do. Driving is essential to everyday living in Michigan. Immigrant workers—both documented and undocumented--played a vital role as essential workers during the COVID pandemic and continue to play a large role in the farming, auto, service, and manufacturing industries.

These bills will not allow people who are not U.S. citizens to vote. The Secretary of State already has procedures in place to issue driver's licenses to non-citizens without registering them to vote.

I urge _____ to do the right thing and restore the right to a driver's license or state ID card to people who are living, working, paying taxes, and contributing to our communities.

Activity #2 – Legislator E-Mail Templates

Sample Email for Reps and Senators in Favor of Drive Safe Bills

Dear _____,

My name is _____ and I live in your district in _____. I am a member of Strangers No Longer, a Catholic based, state-wide, non-profit organization advocating for the rights of immigrants in Michigan.

I understand that you plan to vote in favor of *(fill in either House bills 4410, 4411 and 4412 or Senate bills 265, 266, and 267)* which are known as the Drive Safe bills. As you know, these bills will restore the right of individuals who can prove their identity to obtain a driver's license or state ID regardless of immigration status. This right existed prior to 2008.

First, I would like to thank you for your support! The Drive Safe bills will positively affect over 100,000 residents of Michigan who live, work, and contribute to our communities every day.

Secondly, I want you to know that Strangers No Longer is available to help in any way we can. For instance, if you encounter resistance from colleagues, we have immigrant members who will be directly affected by these bills and Catholic priests and leaders who would be willing to talk to anyone who may not fully understand the reasons for reinstating driver's licenses for all.

How else can we be of assistance? We would love to hear from you or be connected with someone on your staff.

My contact information is:

Again, thank you for your support of the Drive Safe bills,

Send this one if you know the legislator is in favor of the bills.



Send this one if you are not sure.



Sample Email Script for Advocacy Day May 2023

Dear XXXXXX,

My name is _____ and I live in your district in _____. I am a member of Strangers No Longer, a Catholic based, state-wide, non-profit organization advocating for the rights of immigrants in Michigan.

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of *(fill in either House bills 4410, 4411 and 4412 or Senate bills 265, 266, and 267)* which are known as the Drive Safe bills. These bills will restore the right of individuals who can prove their identity to obtain a driver's license or state ID regardless of immigration status. This right existed prior to 2008.

Voting for these bills is the right thing to do. Approximately 100,000 residents of Michigan who do not have U.S. citizenship status play a vital role in the farming, auto, service and manufacturing industries. As you know, driving is essential to everyday living in Michigan. It seems we are willing to accept work that our neighbors will do while making it as hard as possible for them to do it. It is time to right this wrong.

These bills will not allow people who are not U.S. citizens to vote. The Secretary of State already has procedures in place to issue driver's licenses to non-citizens without registering them to vote.

If you would like to learn more about this issue, if you would like to meet some of our members affected by this legislation, or if we can help in any other way, please call on us. I can be reached at: **(GIVE YOUR PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS.)**

I urge you, _____, to do the right thing and restore the right to a driver's license or state ID card to people who are living, working, paying taxes, and contributing to our communities.

Activity #3 – Meetings/Coffee Hours

1. Call legislator's office to find out dates of meeting/coffee hours with constituents. If none are scheduled, make an appointment to meet with the legislator.
2. Email strangersnolonger11@gmail.com to find out the list of people in your district/parish. Email them and invite them to attend the meeting/coffee hour with you.
3. At the meeting/coffee hour, use the fact sheet as you talk to the legislator.

Bullet Points for Coffee Hours and Meetings

Senate Bills – 265, 266, 267. Transportation and Infrastructure Committee chaired by Sen. Erika Geiss

House Bills – 4410, 4411, 4412. Regulatory Reform Committee chaired by Rep. Tyrone Carter

Bills would potentially impact over 100,000 workers in Michigan.

An Issue of Human Dignity

Allowing driver's licenses helps ensure all our neighbors can take care of their families, get to work, and be part of their communities while waiting, sometimes years, for their day in court.

Bill would reinstate the privilege to drive.

Undocumented were allowed to obtain driver's licenses in Michigan prior to 2008. The removal of that privilege resulted from a change in the Attorney General's opinion at the time.

Improve Public Safety

We will be ensuring that Michigan drivers have taken drivers' tests and have car insurance.

Increased traffic safety knowledge will decrease accidents, hit-and-runs, and those who flee due to lack of license / insurance.

Improve Community Safety

License and ID holders in immigrant communities are more likely to report/cooperate with investigations of crime.

Reduces production/sale of fraudulent documentation.

A stronger driver's license database can benefit law enforcement.

Other Potential Economic Benefits to the State of Michigan

Michigan League for Public Policy predicts \$13.5 million in revenue over the first 3 years in new licenses and vehicle purchases.

Auto insurance premiums could decrease with a larger insurance pool.

18 other states offer drivers licenses to those unable to prove legal presence, so Michigan is losing the competition for workers.

Activity #4 – Tracking

May 19 thru May 25th Drive Safe Advocacy Week Activity Tracker

We would like you to submit out one of these forms for each activity that you accomplish for either your state representative or your state senator.

- Emailing your legislators
- Calling your legislators
- Attending coffee hours
- Contacting friends and family--especially out state-- to let them know about these bills and get their support

rkfaba@aol.com [Switch account](#)

 Not shared

* Indicates required question

Your First Name *

Your answer

Your Last Name *

Your answer

State Senator or Representative contacted PLEASE LIST LAST NAME FIRST *

Your answer

Activity accomplished (check on at least one of of the items below) *

- ☐ E-mailed or wrote your legislator
- ☐ Called your legislator
- ☐ Attended or plan to attend the next coffee hour for your legislator
- ☐ Contacted friends or relatives
- ☐ Visited legislator's office
- ☐ Other: _____

Results from the Activity or other Comments

Your answer

Submit

Clear form

In order to keep all of us informed of our activities as well as keep us energized, we would like you to submit one of these forms for EACH activity that you accomplish for either your state representative or your state senator DURING THE WEEK.

The advocacy team will track and publish activities that we accomplished on a daily basis during advocacy week via e-mail.

Advocacy Week – Key Dates

- Friday May 19th – Email to declare start of week with the recording of the preview meeting and all supporting documentation
- Friday May 19th thru Thursday May 25th – ADVOCACY WEEK (Status emailed daily)
- Monday, June 5th at 7:00pm - Closing meeting / summary / next steps

Questions?