
State Government Committee

HJM 4041

Brief Description: Requesting relief for the Aganda family of Selah, Washington.

Sponsors: Representatives Clements, Skinner, Kenney, Hudgins, Santos and Hinkle.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Petitions the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Washington state congressional delegation to end the efforts to deport the Aganda family, or to seek relief for the Aganda family through the passage of a private bill of relief.

Hearing Date: 2/6/04

Staff: Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

Background:

The Aganda family of Selah, Washington, lawfully entered the United States from the Philippines on October 22, 1990, and purchased a small laundry business. The family sought an investor's visa but was denied because the business was considered too small to support the family. However, the business has supported the family for over a decade.

U.S. Immigration Services are seeking to deport Tomas Aganda, his wife Judy Aganda, and their daughter Jennylyn Aganda back to the Philippines. Judy Aganda requires continued treatment for a cancerous growth at the base of her skull. This treatment is not available to her in the Philippines. A U.S. district court has granted a six-month stay of the deportation order which will end April 17, 2004.

The Aganda's daughter, Stephanie, was born in the U.S. and when she reaches the age of twenty-one next year, she will be able to file an immigrant visa for her parents. The Aganda's two sons attend school in the U.S. and have student visas.

Summary of Bill:

A petition is made to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Washington state

congressional delegation to end the efforts to deport the Aganda family, or to seek relief for the Aganda family through the passage of a private bill of relief.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.