WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF JEFFRY MERRICK US AIR FORCE VETERAN AND DAD OF AN ACTIVE-DUTY US MARINE

U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship

Chairwoman Lofgren and the Members of Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship Hearing on "Oversight of Immigrant Military Members and Veterans"

June 29, 2022

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship House Judiciary Committee LI.S. House of Representatives 2141 Rayburn House Office Building Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lofgren and Members of the Subcommittee,

As an American citizen and retired US Air Force Master Sergeant, I think it's appalling to deport anyone who served in this country's military. They should be treated like any US citizen in this county who has served a jail term and be able to reintegrate with their families so they can return to living their life without fear of being deported.

I have been working for over 10 years trying to get deported veterans returned to this country or stopping Homeland Security from deporting them. The only true way of supporting our troops is to stop deporting our veterans. Deporting US military veterans is a national disgrace and must be corrected. Also, it is the responsibility of the military to support all non-citizen recruits so that they can obtain their citizenship during training. Far too many have been deported after risking their lives for the country for which they have already proven their loyalty.

Respectfully, Master Sergeant Jeffry C Merrick, USAF Retired 775 Havana Ave Long Beach, CA 90804