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PLEASE REPLY TO BURLINGTON OFFICE

June 17, 2013

Mr. John Morton, Director
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Director Morton:

I am writing you on behalf of my constituent, Mr. Daniel Alejandro Lopez Santiago of Burlington, Vermont. Mr. Lopez Santiago has asked for my assistance in having his request for Prosecutorial Discretion reviewed so that he can remain in this country. Here in Vermont he is generally known as Danilo Lopez, and his A# is 089-088-623.

Mr. Lopez has been a farmworker in Vermont for five years. He has an excellent reputation as a worker and has been involved in organizing efforts for a group of approximately 1500 farmworkers in our state who do not have legal status. In this role, he has given presentations on the experience of farmworkers to college students, civic groups and other venues. He was involved in influencing a policy change with law enforcement in Vermont to a Bias Free Policing Policy, and he was a key leader in the successful two year effort to persuade the Vermont Legislature to pass a new law granting the privilege of driving in Vermont to persons who lack legal status. He and other supporters argued that farmworkers in rural Vermont need access to health care, groceries, etc. and that they want to be able to legally drive to these services. The Governor just signed this legislation into law.

He is asking you to reconsider the decision not to grant Prosecutorial Discretion in his case. He is supported by the Vermont Workers' Center and Migrant Justice, organizations that I am personally knowledgeable about, and I am familiar with his efforts on behalf of farmworkers in Vermont who provide critical work on our dairy and other farms on a daily basis.

I respectfully request that you look into this matter at your earliest convenience and that you give full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable law and regulations, to Mr. Lopez's request for reconsideration of Prosecutorial Discretion in his case. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Gretchen Bailey, the Casework Coordinator in my Burlington office, at Gretchen_Bailey@sanders.senate.gov. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator