

2/16/2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley
State of South Carolina
South Carolina State House, First Floor
Columbia SC 29201

Dear Governor Nikki Haley,

My name is Ricardas Zemaitis. I reside at 143 Wainwright Manor, Summerville SC 29485. I am an American citizen and a Sergeant in the Army National Guard. I was born in Lithuania and came to this country in 1995 on a student Visa. I gained my citizenship in 2009.

I am writing this letter asking You to address or to remind the proper officials about an overlooked class of individuals and their families in the latest immigration reform. It is us hard working citizens, members of The US Army and Army National Guard, who have brothers and sisters in this country who cannot gain citizenship.

I have a brother Vismantas Zemaitis who came to this country legally in 2001. He tried his best to adjust his status after his student visa expired. But then everybody, even attorneys he consulted with, advised him to wait on reform. That was 2004-2005.

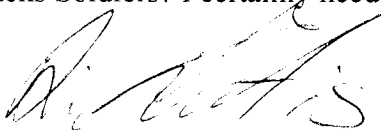
He is not facing deportation, in fact he is a simple hardworking law abiding human being. He has paid taxes from day one and he has never disobeyed the law, but he is still in the shadows per say. He can't buy property or get a better job and so on for that matter.

I need him here, not deported. Besides my two underage boys he's the only one I have here from my immediate family. Until I remarry, with my work schedule or my duties as a soldier he is the only one I can depend on to oversee my sons until they grow up. He is the one who helps me and supports me in business and everyday life good and bad. He is the trustee of my Will to disburse funds in case of my death during service to this Country that we love.

He took care of everything while I was deployed for a year to Kuwait in 2011. He drove me to mobilization and picked me up when we returned. If or when we will deploy again, I will need him again to help and support me, to be in connection with my sons and oversee my business. I need him like I do everyday not to mention he is all I have.

So if others qualify to stay in this country because they have citizen kids, why is there no category for brothers and sisters of Citizens Soldiers? I certainly need some guidance in this matter as time is of the essence.

Respectfully Submitted,



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