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Mr. José García Rumino

Senator and President of the Senate

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**E-mail:** **jgarcia@senado.cl**

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Dear Senators:

**I am writing to you out of deep concern over the bill contained in Bulletin No. 16.072-06, currently on its second reading in Congress, which poses a threat to human rights and criminalises refugees and migrants. This bill contravenes both human rights and the laws protecting children and refugees, and must therefore be rejected.**

Among the most serious aspects is the authorisation to expel unaccompanied children, as well as the indirect expulsion of minors due to the migratory status of their parents, which runs contrary to domestic and international legislation on the best interests of the child and the family unit. Moreover, by abolishing the principle of non-criminalisation of migration, the bill makes irregular migration a punishable act, thus affecting those who migrate for humanitarian reasons.

Furthermore, by requiring registration at the Civil Registry, the bill hinders access to health and education, thereby violating fundamental rights and furthering the criminalisation of persons with irregular status. In education, Chilean students are also given priority over migrants, violating the principle of non-discrimination and constituting a retrograde step in terms of educational inclusiveness policies.

**I call on you, as President of the Senate and Chair of the Commission, to ensure that this bill is rejected, along with any other future initiatives that might restrict the rights of children and migrants.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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