



Letters to the editor

October 5, 2020

Safe communities

The Op/Ed opposing the Safe Communities Act published Sept. 28 ('Safe Communities Act' is anything but safe for Massachusetts) paints an incomplete picture.

That state legislation would not change federal authority to deport immigrants who commit crimes.

What it would do is maintain the historic separation of federal and local law enforcement functions. That separation is an important part in solving the longstanding problem of immigrants being targeted for property crimes, domestic violence and exploitation because criminals and abusers know that victims may be afraid to contact police.

It would also curtail the problem of defendants free on bail being deported before they can be brought to trial, meaning before their victims can seek justice. Like other jurisdictions, the Norfolk DA's Office has had people indicted for rape and other serious crimes deported before they could be brought to trial — and before those victims could see justice done.

Libertarian think tank The Cato Institute picked Texas to study whether illegal immigrants were more or less likely to commit crimes than native-born Americans. They published a study saying that both legal and illegal immigrants were less likely to commit crimes.

Creating barriers between police and the communities they are sworn to protect makes those communities less safe, not more.

— **Michael W. Morrissey, Norfolk District Attorney, Canton**

Kudos to Feldman

I would like to thank Noah Feldman for writing the column ("Amy Coney Barrett deserves to be on the Supreme Court"). In the interest of full disclosure, I'm not as left as he professes to be, but he is to be applauded for his willingness to take a position clearly not in line with those who will soon undertake the task of very publicly attacking Amy Coney Barrett's reputation. He speaks from firsthand knowledge of Ms. Barrett, and despite their differences in political ideology, he recognizes that she is abundantly qualified and deserving of the appointment.

— **Kevin W. Collins, Milton**

Flying China's flag

I called the mayor's office in Boston and voiced my outrage and disgust at their total insensitivity and moral bankruptcy for flying and glorifying the CCP flag today.

I reminded them that after WWII, the world said in response to Auschwitz, “never again!” Now in 2020 this regime that the City of Boston has gone out of its way to glorify has some 3 million Uyghurs and ethnic Turkic peoples and many others in concentration camps. This regime also has murdered 70 million of their own people over the decades and have been responsible for every human rights crime possible under the sun.

I asked them if they have completely lost their minds and if they would have glorified the Nazi flag in the same way in 1945?

Disgusting!

— **Howard G. Fass, Danvers**

Double standard

Marty Walsh once again shows that he is not consistent and has a clear double standard (“Chinese flag draws protesters” 10/1/20). He tells us that he “flies all sorts of different flags” but flies the flag of a Communist country while denying flying a flag representing the thin blue line of police officers and the Straight Pride flag. I guess Marty Walsh will be the decider as to who the City of Boston will and will not support, not the people of Boston!

— **Michael Westen, Malden**