

## **Recent Victories in the Fight Against Illegal Immigration**

### **June 2011**

#### **2010/11 Poll Data**

- › U.S. registered voters support stricter enforcement of immigration law over "integrating illegal immigrants into American society" 68% to 24% (Quinnipiac, September 2010).
- › Only 30% of likely voters say that the U.S. border with Mexico is secure; 64% say that the border is *not* secure (Rasmussen, May 2011).
- › 64% of likely voters say that gaining control of the border is more important than amnesty for illegal aliens. Only 31% believe amnesty is more important (Rasmussen, May 2011).
- › 63% of likely U.S. voters think that border control is more important than "legalizing the status of undocumented workers." Only 27% put amnesty ahead of border security (Rasmussen, March 2011).
- › 67% of likely U.S. voters believe law enforcement officers should check immigration status during traffic stops (Rasmussen, March 2011).
- › 66% of likely U.S. voters support strict government sanctions on employers who hire illegal immigrants (Rasmussen, March 2011). 67% of likely U.S. voters believe that states should enforce immigration laws if the federal government fails to do so (Rasmussen, February 2011).
- › 65% of likely voters believe that gaining control of the border is more important than granting amnesty to illegal aliens living in the U.S. (Rasmussen, December 2010). 54% of likely voters oppose the DREAM Act, compared to 38% who support its passage (Pulse, November 2010).
- › 61% of likely U.S. voters oppose "sanctuary cities" that prohibit police officers from inquiring about an individual's immigration status. Only 26% support sanctuary polices. 54% believe that the Justice Department should take legal action (Rasmussen, July 2010).
- › 61% of likely U.S. voters support a law similar to Arizona SB1070 for their own state (Rasmussen, July 2010).
- › 62% of Americans believe that illegal aliens are a cost burden on U.S. taxpayers, while 32% of Americans believe that illegal aliens pay their fair share in taxes (Gallup, July 2010).
- › 67% of U.S. voters say that military troops should be deployed to the Mexican border to prevent illegal immigration (Rasmussen, May 2010).
- › 88% of Americans say more federal law enforcement officials are needed along Mexican border (CNN, May 2010).
- › 70% of likely Arizona voters approve of the state's new law authorizing police officers to inquire about an individual's immigration status; only 23% oppose it (Rasmussen, April 2010).
- › 60% of likely voters nationwide favor the passage of a law authorizing police to inquire about an individual's immigration status, while 31% are opposed (Rasmussen, April 2010).
- › 66% of Americans believe that the U.S. "should not make it easier for illegal immigrants to become citizens" (CNN, April 2010).
- › 68% of likely voters think that securing the border is more important than granting amnesty to illegal aliens, but only 20% believe that Congress will take steps to secure the border in within the next year (Rasmussen, March 2010).
- › 67% of likely voters believe illegal immigrants are a "significant strain" on the U.S. budget (Rasmussen, March 2010).

## **Homeland Security Amendments**

HR2017: Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2012  
<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h112-2017&tab=amendments>

House approves cut to Homeland Security funding for 2012, By Pete Kasperowicz - 06/02/11 06:58 PM ET at <http://thehill.com/blogs/floor-action/house/164541-house-approves-cut-to-homeland-security-funding-for-2012>: "The House on Thursday night approved a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) appropriations bill for FY 2012 that funds DHS at \$42 billion -- \$1 billion lower than the FY 2011 funding level, and \$3 billion lower than the Obama administration's request."

There were 69 amendments to this appropriations bill. NumbersUSA ([www.numbersusa](http://www.numbersusa)) cites the passage of nine amendments as particularly important in the fight against illegal immigration. All these enhancements were budget neutral in shifting funds from Homeland Security administration. They also report a tenth amendment which represented a crushing defeat for open borders advocates. All in all, the House passed amendments to:

- > set aside funding for Border Patrol to eliminate look-out posts along the U.S.-Mexico border;
- > set aside funding to hire additional Native American "Shadow Wolves" who track down smugglers along the border;
- > reallocate funds to increase funding for the 287(g) program by nearly 20%;
- > reallocate funding to increase support for the Law Enforcement Support Center;
- > ensure that funding provided in the spending bill is used to enforce existing federal law requiring the detention of illegal aliens who are violent criminals awaiting deportation;
- > withhold funding from cities that have sanctuary city policies in place;
- > prohibit the Administration from offering amnesty through "deferred action";
- > require all DHS contractors to use E-Verify to check new hires; and
- > reallocate funds to build cell towers providing full service along the entire U.S.-Mexico border.

According to NumbersUSA, the House overwhelmingly defeated an amendment to the 2012 Homeland Security spending bill offered by Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) that would have defunded the 287(g) program. The amendment was defeated 107-to-313. The 287(g) program provides for training of state and local police officers by federal immigration enforcement agents. Local officers who complete the program can then enforce federal immigration laws at the local level. Rep. Polis' amendment would have stripped more than \$5 million of funding for the program from the Homeland Security spending bill. Republicans unanimously opposed Rep. Polis' amendment, while Democrats were divided with 107 supporting the amendment and 81 opposing it.

## **Senate**

S.1196 "Accountability Through Electronic Verification Act" at <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s112-1196>: Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) has introduced new legislation in the U.S. Senate that would require all employers in the United States to use E-Verify. Sen. Grassley is the Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which oversees immigration policy in the Senate. He also sits on the Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and Border Security. Sen. Grassley's bill would make the E-Verify program permanent and would require all employers to use the system within 12 months of enactment.

## **Supreme Court**

In June, the Supreme Court's action sent the Hazelton case back to the Third Circuit with instructions to review the matter in light of the Supreme Court's May ruling on the Arizona E-Verify law. The Supreme Court ruling was 5-3 on Hazelton -- the same as on the Arizona case. "(Federal law) expressly reserves to the states the authority to impose sanctions on employers hiring unauthorized workers, through licensing and similar laws. In exercising that authority, Arizona has taken the route least likely to cause tension with federal law," Chief Justice Roberts wrote last month. More info: <http://standardspeaker.com/news/supreme-court-tosses-ruling-against-hazleton-1.1157890#axzz1QsV1FGYi>

## **Business Associations**

U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Home Builders, and the National Restaurant Association Endorse E-Verify Bill, Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 11:30 AM EDT - pos at <http://www.numbersusa.com/content/news/june-15-2011/us-chamber-commerce-national-association-home-builders-and-national-restaurant-ass?jid=948061&lid=9&rid=16790&tid=7573>

In reference to the two Supreme Court rulings in favor of E-verify and the fact that multiple states were in the process of passing or enforcing their own statutes, national business associations decided they preferred a single federal regulation on verifying legal status rather than deal with multiple and diverse state statutes.

## **Senator/President Obama Quotes on E-verify**

Comment: Senator Obama was more amenable to E-verify than President Obama who wants to use the program as leverage to get a mass amnesty for illegal aliens. However, with the current powerful momentum in favor of E-verify, it may be a favorable time to get such legislation signed by our President.

1. Senator Obama cosponsored S1917 "The Employment Verification Act of 2005" which never passed. <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s109-1917>
2. March 24, 2007 Interview with Larry King <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0703/24/lkl.01.html>

KING: What's your position on illegal immigration? What would you do to stop it?"

OBAMA: Well, I think that there are a couple of things that we've got to do. Number one, we're going to have to secure our borders. And this past year, the Senate invested billions of dollars in improving border security. I think that's important because I think all Americans think that we should be able to regulate who comes in and out of this country in an orderly way, not only for the sake of our sovereignty, but also to avoid the hundreds of people who have been dying across the desert, the enormous costs that are placed on border states and border towns.

I also think that we've got to be serious about employers' obligations to check to see whether somebody

is here legally or not. Up until this point, we haven't had an employment verification system that was tamper-proof. As a consequence, employers have been getting off the hook when they hire undocumented workers. And typically, it's the undocumented workers that get arrested and punished when there are raids, but the employers themselves are frequently let off the hook.

There hasn't been a serious program of employer sanctions. That has to be put in place.

3. Obama administration backs E-Verify rule; Date: Friday, July 24 2009

<http://www.allbusiness.com/government/government-bodies-offices-us-federal-government/14247011-1.html>

The Obama administration announced it will go ahead with the rule requiring contractors to use the E-Verify system to confirm employees' immigration status. The requirement will be added to solicitations and awards starting on the effective date.

4. Obama's non-committal answer to E-Verify veto requests; posted at 5:45 pm on June 30, 2011 by Tina Korbe

<http://hotair.com/archives/2011/06/30/obamas-non-committal-answer-to-e-verify-veto-requests/>

The president yesterday refused to commit to veto H.R. 2164, Rep. Lamar Smith's (R-Tex.) bill to require most employers to enact the E-Verify program to confirm the legal work status of employees. The president's noncommittal attitude held even when reporters pressed him.