PRESS RELEASE



Congressman Gary G. Miller 42nd District, California For Immediate Release January 7, 2004

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Rep. Gary Miller Opposes President Bush's Immigration Plan

Congressman Gary Miller (R-Brea) made the following statement today regarding President Bush's proposal to provide legal status to illegal immigrants:

"This proposal is in reality a mechanism to provide amnesty to two million or more illegal aliens. It would reward illegal immigration by allowing illegal aliens, without numerical limit, to legalize their status and apply for temporary work visas. After satisfying minimal work requirements, the temporary workers could be eligible for permanent residency and citizenship for themselves and their spouses and children. This will only further-burden public assistance programs at a time many states, particularly California, are trying to recover economically.

"This proposal rewards law-breakers, is unfair to law-abiding legal immigrants, will encourage new waves of illegal immigrants, and makes a mockery of our laws. It will encourage, not prevent, further illegal immigration, by sending the message that the United States does not take our immigration laws seriously and that, if only people can get into the country illegally, eventually they can be rewarded with legal status. I will continue to use my voice and vote in Congress to oppose this misguided proposal and protect our borders from illegal immigration."

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