

STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2004

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STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN SULLIVAN ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S PROPOSED IMMIGRATION POLICY

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Congressman John Sullivan issued the following remarks regarding the new guest worker immigration policy of President Bush:

“I agree with President Bush that amnesty for illegal immigrants is wrong. Amnesty rewards law-breakers, cheapens the legality of our immigration process, and is a slap in the face to those who came to America legally. However, I am afraid that his proposal will create a type of amnesty.

“The President’s new policy seems to complicate our existing immigration problem. The largest challenge that we face, with our immigration problem, is the enforcement of current law. The proposed temporary worker program appears to reward two groups of law-breakers - - those who came to this country illegally, and employers who hire illegal workers.

“It is not appropriate for Congress to address the guest worker program without first giving consideration to the security of our borders and stemming the tide of illegal immigration. I will continue to support an immigration policy that is fair, responsible, and that is respectful of our current immigration law. In his remarks, President Bush asserted that temporary workers will be held to the laws of the land and must maintain employment or face the prospect of deportation. If the United States cannot enforce our current immigration laws, how will we do so in the future if a guest worker program is implemented?

“As a member of the Congressional Immigration Reform Caucus, I look forward to working on immigration reform with the President despite whatever differences we may have on his proposed guest worker program.”

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