



Congressman **Jim Sensenbrenner**

News From Congress

NUMBER 166 - APRIL 2005

Real I.D. for Real People

It is simple commonsense that people in our country illegally should not be rewarded with a driver's license to use as a legal form of ID, right? I thought so, and that is why during the debate on the Intelligence bill last year, I brought the issue of states providing drivers' licenses to illegal aliens to the national forefront. I also agreed with what the bipartisan 9/11 Commission said about this problem - that this is not just an issue about identity theft; this is an issue of security.

Commonsense, however, is not that common in the US Senate. As a result of the Senate's unwillingness to compromise on the driver's license provisions, the bill that was signed into law by President Bush last year was flawed, and I did not support it.

HR 418, the Real ID Act, is my remedy to the situation. Passed by the House of Representatives on February 10, my bill's goal is straightforward: it seeks to prevent another 9/11-type attack by disrupting terrorist travel. This legislation addresses the use of a driver's license as a form of identification to a federal official. American citizens have the right to know who is in our country, that people are who they say they are, and that the name on a driver's license is the holder's real name, not some alias. My bill does not try to set state policy for who may or may not drive a car.

The Real ID Act will also tighten our asylum system, which has been abused by terrorists. The 9/11 Commission staff report on terrorist travel states that, "once the terrorists had entered the United States, their next challenge was to find a way to remain here. Their primary method was immigration fraud."

While I have no problems with legal immigration, I do have a problem with **illegal** immigration.

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It's Time for Permanent Tax Relief

By now, chances are you've either paid your taxes, or are scrambling to do so before the April 15th deadline. If you're lucky, you were able to file your taxes without assistance, and it "only" took you a few hours. However, the numbers don't favor you. Over half the individual income tax returns filed a couple of years ago required the assistance of a professional preparer. Though numbers for people filing this year are not yet available, it's difficult to imagine that the need for professional preparers has gone down.

While Congress and President Bush are still working to simpli-

Continued on page 4...

Sensenbrenner Receives Award from Women's Caucus



On March 10, Congressman Sensenbrenner became one of the first ever recipients of an award presented by Lifetime Television and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. As part of the 4th annual Stop Violence Against Women Week, Lifetime Television and the Caucus held a special event to salute "leading men" in the House of Representatives who are committed to helping stop violence against women.

As one of only three men to receive this award, Sensenbrenner was recognized for his successful efforts to pass critical DNA legislation that will help put thousands of rapists behind bars. Entitled the Justice For All Act, this bill was signed into law by the President last October.

Reminder...

Office Hours & Town Hall Meetings ...Page 2

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Office Hours

Monday, April 11

8:30am Helenville Fire Hall
9:15am Sullivan Village Hall
10:00am Palmyra Village Hall
11:00am Dousman Village Hall
11:45am Genesee Town Hall
12:30pm Wales Village Hall
2:00pm Nashotah Village Hall
2:45pm Merton Town Hall
3:30pm Merton Village Hall
4:15pm Pewaukee Village Hall

Friday, April 22

9:00am Newburg Village Hall
9:45am Fredonia Village Hall
10:30am Belgium Village Hall
11:15am Saukville Village Hall
1:30pm River Hills Village Hall
2:15pm Fox Point Village Hall
3:00pm Bayside Village Hall

Monday, April 25

11:00am Butler Village Hall
11:45am Lannon Village Hall
1:30pm Sussex Village Hall
2:30pm Jackson Village Hall
3:15pm Addison Town Hall
4:00pm Kewaskum Public Library

I host scores of Town Hall Meetings and Office Hours to provide you the chance to express your views on the issues before Congress or to help you with problems you may be experiencing in dealing with a federal agency. This newsletter includes my schedule of meetings for the next several weeks, and I invite you to attend one or more of them. Whether you need help or not, I hope you'll stop by to say hello and introduce yourself. Please contact my district office if you require special accommodations to attend.

Town Hall Meetings

Saturday, April 9

• **9:00am** New Berlin City Hall

Sunday, April 10

• **7:00pm** Brookfield Public Safety Building

Monday, April 11

• **7:00pm** West Allis Public Library

Saturday, April 23

• **9:00am** Glendale North Shore Public Library
• **1:00pm** Menomonee Falls Village Hall

Sunday, April 24

• **7:00pm** Hartford City Hall

Monday, April 25

• **7:00pm** Elm Grove Village Hall

Saturday, April 30

• **9:00am** Germantown Village Hall

Saturday, April 30

• **1:00pm** Grafton Village Hall

Sunday, May 1

• **7:00pm** Mequon Public Safety Building

Saturday, May 21

• **9:00am** Delafield Town Hall
• **1:00pm** Brown Deer Public Library

Sunday, May 22

• **7:00pm** Hartland Village Hall

Sunday, June 5

• **7:00pm** Thiensville Village Hall

Sunday, June 12

• **7:00pm** Slinger Village Hall

Sunday, June 26

• **7:00pm** Pewaukee City Hall

Real I.D. for Real People ...Continued from page 1

tion, especially when it leads to the loss of innocent lives. I am reminded here of the February news account of the illegal alien from Macedonia who killed a family of four in a Tennessee traffic accident three days after illegally procuring a Wisconsin commercial truck driver's license.

This was one of the reasons why I was pleased to join State Representative Mark Gundrum of New Berlin in holding a press conference at Mitchell Field to introduce Wisconsin's Identification Security Act. Echoing my sentiments, Mr. Gundrum spoke about the need to address this important security issue now, so we don't regret it in the months and years to come.

I'm glad that my message in Washington was heard here in Wisconsin, especially since Wisconsin is one of about 10 states that still issues drivers' licenses to illegal aliens. It is my hope that my bill on the federal level, and Representative Gundrum's bill in Wisconsin, will help solve this security and safety problem by preventing an illegal immigrant from being issued a license to kill in the United States.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To write about issues or request publications, contact me at:

2449 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515-4905
TEL: (202) 225-5101

To get help with federal agencies, contact me at:

120 Bishops Way, #154
Brookfield, WI 53005-6294
TEL: (262) 784-1111

Outside Metro Calling Area: **(800) 242-1119**

E-Mail: sensenbrenner@mail.house.gov

Website: <http://www.house.gov/sensenbrenner>

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE CARD

RESPONDENT #1

1. Yes No
2. Yes No
3. a b c d e
4. a b
5. Yes No
6. Yes No
7. Yes No
8. Yes No
9. a b
10. a b
11. a b c d
12. a b c
13. a b c d
14. Yes No
15. a b c d e

RESPONDENT #2

1. Yes No
2. Yes No
3. a b c d e
4. a b
5. Yes No
6. Yes No
7. Yes No
8. Yes No
9. a b
10. a b
11. a b c d
12. a b c
13. a b c d
14. Yes No
15. a b c d e

CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE, STAMP, AND MAIL

2005 Annual Questionnaire

The 109th Congress is involved with many issues vital to you, your family, and the nation. Please take a few minutes to complete this year's questionnaire. All questions have a YES or NO answer unless otherwise indicated. Please mark your answer by placing an "X" in the space provided. In some cases, a YES or NO answer may seem oversimplified, but I am often left with that same choice when voting on complex legislation on the House floor. Please let me know what matters to you. Fill out the response card, place a stamp on it, and return it to my Washington office. Thank you for your time.

1. Should illegal aliens be permitted to receive a driver's license?
(a) Yes (b) No
2. Wisconsin has announced that it will continue charging an Internet Access tax that taxes people logging onto the internet even after federal law has required states to stop charging this tax. Should Wisconsin end this tax?
(a) Yes (b) No
3. Beginning in 2018, the Social Security Trust Fund will pay out more money in benefits than it will receive in payroll taxes. What is the best way to ensure the solvency of Social Security?
(a) Do nothing. Social Security will not be in a crisis for a longtime. (b) Cut benefits for Social Security recipients. (c) Raise payroll taxes. (d) Raise the retirement age. (e) Allow workers to invest a small portion of their Social Security payroll taxes in personal retirement accounts.
4. Current law bans the purchase of drugs from Canada or other countries that are shipped to the United States. Should this law be changed?
(a) Yes, seniors should be able to purchase prescription drugs from countries such as Canada.
(b) No, there are too many safety concerns.
5. There are currently 44 states that have enacted some form of parental notification or consent statute for minors who wish to have an abortion. Should minors be permitted to circumvent their state's law by going to another state to have an abortion, without their parents' consent?
(a) Yes (b) No
6. Should military retirees with service-connected disabilities be able to receive compensation for their injuries in addition to their military retired pay?
(a) Yes (b) No
7. Should active military personnel be allowed to purchase alcohol at the age of 19 in the state of Wisconsin?
(a) Yes (b) No
8. Do you support an amendment to the Constitution that would require a balanced federal budget?
(a) Yes (b) No
9. Should Congress make permanent tax cuts such as the marriage penalty relief and an expansion of the child tax credit, which were enacted into law in 2001?
(a) Yes, taxpayers are taxed too much as it is.
(b) No, tax cuts cost the federal government too much money.
10. Recently, Governor Doyle announced that he will divert approximately \$500 million of Wisconsin's transportation funding into the state's general fund. Should Wisconsin's federal transportation dollars be used to improve roads and transportation infrastructure, or be spent on Doyle's other priorities?
(a) Spend on roads. (b) Spend on Doyle's other priorities.
11. In your opinion, which of the following solutions would assist small businesses and enhance economic growth in Southeastern Wisconsin?
(a) Affordable health insurance for small business employees. (b) Tax laws that encourage growth.
(c) End of frivolous lawsuits. (d) All of the above.
12. The manufacturing industry has had a major economic impact in Wisconsin for decades. During the recent economic slowdown, this sector lost jobs, which have begun to return. What is the best way to assist struggling manufacturers and their employees?
(a) Provide tax relief for manufacturers to encourage investment. (b) Restrict trade with countries that violate trade agreements and American intellectual property laws. (c) Both (a) and (b)
13. Who do you think should make the majority of decisions regarding spending taxpayer money for education?
(a) US Department of Education. (b) Wisconsin State Government (c) US Congress. (d) Local school boards, administrators, and parents.
14. Should Congress use taxpayer money to fund the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)?
(a) Yes (b) No
15. Which Wisconsin county do you live in?
(a) Jefferson (b) Milwaukee (c) Ozaukee
(d) Washington (e) Waukesha

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REP. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.
2449 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4905



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It's Time for Permanent Tax Relief

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fy the tax code, at least we have succeeded in passing important tax relief to help Americans and businesses with some of their tax woes. The elimination of the unfair death tax and marriage penalty, along with the expansion of the child tax credit and pro-business tax provisions, have resulted in increased fairness in the tax code. They have also allowed families and small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money. Perhaps most importantly, these tax cuts have stimulated a major economic recovery.

repeal and the adoption tax credit permanent. Additionally, I have cosponsored bills in the past to make the marriage penalty relief permanent.

I have continually supported tax cuts in the past, and I support current efforts to make these cuts permanent. I am presently a cosponsor of bills to make the death tax

As the year progresses, I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to provide lasting tax relief once and for all because taxes are too complicated, too high, and a pain to file. You shouldn't need a degree in accounting, or have to spend hundreds of dollars on an accountant to do your taxes. Consequently, as Tax Day draws near, the date serves as a good reminder to Congress that we need to continue to push for tax simplification. The time to give our overtaxed nation some permanent relief is long overdue.

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