U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary
F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

For immediate release
July 26, 2006

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Hostettler Subcommittee Hearing Thursday on Administrative and National Security Problems in "Reid-Kennedy"

What: **Oversight Hearing on Whether the Attempted Implementation of Reid-Kennedy Will Result in an Administrative and National Security Nightmare**

Who: **Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims – Rep. John N. Hostettler (R-Ind.), Chairman**

When: **11:30 a.m., Thursday, July 27, 2006**

Where: **2141 Rayburn Building**

Because estimates of the U.S. illegal immigrant population vary from 11-20 million, it would be impossible to state exactly how many applications the Reid-Kennedy amnesty proposals would generate. While the Committee has been told that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) anticipates an additional 10 million amnesty-based applications, this number would appear to be low in light of other estimates. Furthermore, Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation has estimated that Reid-Kennedy would result in 42 million new legal immigrants over 20 years in addition to the 19 million immigrants who would be lawfully admitted over that period under current law.

ISSUES...

✓ Reid-Kennedy would add a significant burden to USCIS's workload, including pushing for completion of fingerprint checks for security and law-enforcement purposes under the blanket amnesty provision within 90 days of submission.

✓ In a July 24, 2006 *Washington Post* article, USCIS's Associate Director for Domestic Operations Michael Aytes states, "We can't approach anything like legalization on the scale being discussed in a traditional way. We would have to grow too far, too fast."

✓ The GAO determined in a March 2006 report that "[a]lthough the full extent of [immigration] benefit fraud is not known, available evidence suggests that it is an ongoing and serious problem." Fraud not only weakens the integrity of our immigration system, but it also poses a risk to our nation. As GAO found: "Individuals who pose a threat to national security and public safety may seek to enter the United States by fraudulently obtaining immigration benefits."

THIS HEARING WILL...

➫ Examine whether USCIS could ferret out fraud and handle the millions of new applications triggered by the amnesty proposals and the expansion of legal immigration in Reid-Kennedy.

➫ Address whether terrorists and criminals would be able to slip through the background checks that would be performed as part of the application process.

WITNESSES: Mr. Peter Gadiel, President, 9/11 Families for a Secure America; **Mr. Michael Maxwell,** former Director of the Office of Security and Investigations, USCIS; **Mr. Michael Cutler,** former INS Examiner, Inspector, and Special Agent; and **His Excellency Nicholas DiMarzio,** Bishop of Brooklyn.

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