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Serving California's Forty-Fourth District

Dear Friends,

I understand that there are several federal issues important to you and your family. Many of you have written to me about your frustration with illegal immigration and specifically, the federal government. This newsletter is intended to update you on several aspects of the illegal immigration debate.

As many of you know, in 1996 I wrote legislation that created the Basic Pilot Program, now known as E-Verify. The program allows employers to check the name and Social Security number given by an employee when they are hired. E-Verify is web-based, timely and accurate. Most employers receive an immediate response. If there is a discrepancy, an employee has eight business days to clarify the problem with the local Social Security Administration office. The program has over 31,000 employers participating and receives few complaints. If you are a small business owner and would like to participate, please visit the website at https://www.vis-dhs.com. The program has also incorporated photo tool technology that will help crackdown on identify theft.

E-Verify addresses a larger issue integral to winning the battle against illegal immigration: if we drain the pool of jobs available to illegal immigrants, they will have much less incentive to illegally cross our border. The long-term solution to illegal immigration is a multi-faceted approach that includes an effective border fence, employment verification, tough interior enforcement to catch and deport criminal aliens and no amnesty.

I hope you find the updates on the border fence, recent actions in Congress, and what I am doing to fight illegal immigration informative. As always, your input is valuable and I encourage you to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

KEN CALVERT **Member of Congress** **Support the Troops**

www.americasupportsyou.mil

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Where's the Fence?

In 2005, Congress passed, with the support of Rep. Ken Calvert, the Secure Fence Act. The bill was signed into law and requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to build 700 miles of fence line along the southern border. As of November 2007, DHS has completed 155 miles of the border fence. By law, DHS is required to complete 370 miles by the end of 2008 and they are on track to fulfill the requirement. DHS has identified locations of proposed build sites along the southwest border and funding has been included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations bill to complete the final 330 miles. Some of the reasons for the slow progress on the fence are environmental regulations that DHS is required to abide by. However, studies have shown that illegal immigration actually causes severe environmental degradation.

"National security trumps environmental concerns. There is no reason to delay the building of the border fence and I will continue to closely monitor its progress and press for completion."

- REP. KEN CALVERT

Representing YOU in Congress, Not Illegal Immigrants

Legislation sponsored or co-sponsored by Congressman Calvert in the 110th Congress:

- H.R. 19 Cut off the job magnet. Requires mandatory employment verification.
- H.R. 563 Support Border Patrol agents. Provides a congressional pardon to Border Patrol agents Compean and Ramos.
- H.R. 1940 Citizenship Reform. Denies citizenship to an individual born in the U.S. if both parents are illegal immigrants or do not reside in the U.S legally.
- H.R. 769 English Only. Declares English the official language of the United States.
- H.R. 4088 The SAVE Act. Fortifies border protection, requires mandatory employment verification, and increases interior enforcement.
- H.R. 1314 No Credit Cards for Illegals. Requires the federal government and financial institutions to accept only secure forms of identification.
- H.R. 736. No Social Security for illegal immigrants.
- H.R. 4176 No drivers' licenses for illegal immigrants.

Congressman Calvert has also written several letters to the President to encourage the use of Executive Order to require all federal contractors to use E-Verify.



IN MAY 2007, REP. CALVERT TOURED THE SOUTHERN BORDER WITH THE BORDER PATROL AND CA NATIONAL GUARD.

The Amnesty That Won't Die

Despite the outrage of the American public, the Majority Party continues to push for amnesty for illegal aliens. Recently, Sen. Durbin (D-IL) introduced a bill titled The DREAM Act. The bill essentially provides legal status to students illegally residing in the United States. The bill also allows those students to receive in-state tuition. Fortunately the bill failed in the Senate. The Senate also tried, unsuccessfully, to pass the DREAM Act as part of a "comprehensive" illegal immigration reform bill earlier in the summer.

"During a time when in-state college tuitions to state and university schools are on the rise, I do not support putting the educational needs of illegal immigrants ahead of U.S. citizens or legal residents."

- REP. KEN CALVERT

Speaker Pelosi will continue to push for "comprehensive reform" to illegal immigration which will give legal status to the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. As proven in 1986, amnesty only encourages an increase in illegal immigration and teaches those in the U.S. illegally that they only need to wait to gain legal status. Rep. Calvert will continue to fight against amnesty such as the DREAM Act.

