

## Office of Congressman Jeff Flake

## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Monday, November 10, 2003 **CONTACT:** Matthew Specht (202) 225-2635

## **Congressman Flake Introduces Legislation to Increase Security Standards of Driver's Licenses**

Commonsense Standards Will Improve Homeland Security

**Washington, D.C.** - Arizona Congressman Jeff Flake, a member of the House Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee, today introduced legislation (H.R. 3461) that will improve homeland security by encouraging states to adopt standards for issuing driver's licenses.

Driver's licenses have become the identification card of choice in the U.S. As such, states that issue licenses that are not secure put the entire country at risk.

"States like California that have adopted unsafe standards for issuing driver's licenses are putting not only their citizens at risk, but are endangering the entire country, as well," said Flake.

H.R. 3461 will prevent the federal government from recognizing, for identification purposes, driver's licenses that do not meet certain standards, such as the number and types of forms of identification applicants must present. The bill will also require driver's licenses for foreign nationals to expire on or before the expiration date of their visa.

Congressman Flake spent the morning being briefed by Department of Homeland Security officials regarding an operation to combat human smuggling and the violence associated with smuggling in Arizona.