

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

Immigration Reform Update



Tucson Congressional Office
1661 North Swan
Suite 112
Tucson, AZ 85712
Phone: (520) 881-3588
Fax: (520) 322-9490

Cochise County Congressional Office
77 Calle Portal
Suite B-160
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Phone: (520) 459-3115
Fax: (520) 459-5419

Washington, DC Office
502 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2542
Fax: (202) 225-0378

Gabrielle S. Giffords
M.C.
PRESORTED STANDARD

Giffords Fights for Overhaul of Immigration Laws

Along with many other members of Congress, I am fighting for comprehensive immigration reform legislation to reach the President's desk by August. Through floor speeches, letters to House leaders such as Speaker Pelosi, co-sponsorship of key legislation and participation in immigration hearings on Capitol Hill, I am working to pass a common sense reform bill as soon as possible.

Arizona has been bearing the burden of our failed immigration policy for far too long. The federal government has ignored this complex problem for decades. The time to act is now.

America needs a new set of immigration laws that include:

- **Enhanced Border Security efforts that include additional border agents and state-of-the art surveillance technology;**
- **Federal Reimbursement to county and state law enforcement agencies that are burdened by the costs of handling illegal immigrants who commit crimes in our communities; fully funding the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) would be one way to make this happen;**
- **New identification tools for employers so they can accurately verify the citizenship status of potential employees; and**
- **Common sense visa policies and a temporary worker program that allow American industries to hire the workers they need.**



Congresswoman Giffords tours the Mexico-Arizona border with U.S. Border Patrol officials.

I am a co-sponsor of an immigration reform bill called the STRIVE Act (H.R. 1645) which addresses the provisions listed above. The final version of the legislation that comes to the House floor must retain these measures in order to get my vote.

Currently, the Tucson Sector is the most porous section of the U.S.-Mexico border. All options for strengthening border security must be on the table.

Recently, I held a cross-border summit in Douglas with public and law enforcement officials from Arizona and Mexico to discuss the drug cartel violence in Cananea, Mexico that left 20 dead.

In addition, I have formed the Checkpoint Working Group of community leaders to provide input to the U.S. Border Patrol on how to develop the best strategy to better secure the Arizona and Mexico border.

The surge in border-related violence along I-19 near the temporary checkpoint in Tubac is the most urgent issue to emerge from the group. In response, I contacted U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar, requesting that the Tucson Sector immediately provide more agents and technology in this turbulent area. On June 4th, I received a response from Chief Aguilar outlining new security efforts underway, including the addition of more agents and technology.

SIERRA VISTA THE HERALD

Border Violence Prompts Summit

BY JONATHAN CLARK
MAY 31, 2007

DOUGLAS - Community leaders from both sides of the Arizona-Sonora border gathered here Wednesday for a summit meeting hosted by U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords at which participants expressed concern for recent drug-related violence in Sonora, as well as a desire to maintain positive cross-border relationships.

Tucson Citizen

August 17, 2006

THUR H. ROTSTEIN
2007

Giffords Calls for House Leadership to Step up on Immigration

Gabrielle Giffords said she is circulating a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi demanding that the U.S. House leadership "do their part to pass comprehensive immigration reform."

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Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords
Tucson Congressional Office
1661 North Swan, Suite 112
Tucson, AZ 85712



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U.S. Border Patrol Responds to Rep. Giffords' Request for More Security on I-19 Corridor



Congresswoman Giffords holds an Immigration Town Hall meeting in Southeast Tucson on May 29th about border security.

Responding to a letter from Congresswoman Giffords, U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar on June 4 announced specific measures to address public safety concerns from residents due to increased violence. They include:

- **18 additional agents per shift, including on horseback, to patrol Tubac, and its immediate area, and the areas north and flanking the I-19 checkpoint;**
- **Ground sensors in the area surrounding Tubac and sky watch towers equipped with day and nighttime cameras to flank the I-19 checkpoint; and**
- **Utilization of a Ground Surveillance Radar (GSR) unit from Ajo, AZ on the west side of the I-19 checkpoint. All-terrain vehicles will support the unit as needed.**

CONGRESSWOMAN GIFFORDS' IMMIGRATION SURVEY



**Your feedback is important to me. Please let me know
your views on this important matter.**

- Rank the issues of importance facing Southern Arizona (1 is the highest).
____ Education
____ Energy Independence
____ Health Care
____ Immigration
____ Iraq
____ Jobs/Economy
____ Protecting our Environment
____ Other _____
- Do you support enforcing the laws that penalize employers who hire illegal immigrants?
 Yes No
- Do you support a temporary worker program that allows immigrants to work in the U.S. and offers them an opportunity to apply for citizenship after meeting certain requirements?
 Yes No
- Do you support a temporary worker program that allows immigrants to work in the U.S. and then requires them to return to their home country?
 Yes No
- Do you support increasing the number of border agents and improving technology to keep illegal immigrants from entering the U.S?
 Yes No
- Do you support giving local law enforcement the power to arrest and deport illegal immigrants for trespassing?
 Yes No
- Do you support building a fence along the Mexican border?
 Yes No
- Do you support permanent border checkpoints in Southern Arizona?
 Yes No
- Do you feel the effects of illegal immigration in your daily life?
 Yes No
If so, how? _____

(Please tear off survey and mail back or fax to 520-322-9490)

Additional comments: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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