



USA

United to Secure America

As Senate and House Members are developing their positions on immigration-related measures, we thought it would be helpful to outline generally some of the reforms that Secure America believes are necessary. Among other things, we support:

- **Effective Border Controls:** We must know who enters and remains in our country so that we may freely admit those we choose, but keep out or promptly expel terrorists and those who violate our laws and who may do us harm. We must do so without unduly impeding commerce or international movement. Enforcement efforts must occur when visas are requested and be renewed at ports of entry and land borders.
- **Effective Interior Enforcement and Visa Tracking:** It is essential that our immigration laws continue to be enforced after a person enters past our land borders. We must swiftly remove aliens who commit serious crimes or violations of our immigration laws. We must not allow individuals who come to America to freely remain here in disregard of the terms of their visas or other legal requirements. Government enforcement policies must be changed so that officials consistently uphold the law. No longer should immigrants and other foreign visitors who blatantly violate America's laws be allowed to live and work here without consequence. Our laws must be respected and followed.
- **Secure Identification Documents:** Officials cannot fairly and effectively enforce our laws and protect Americans and America's vital interests unless they can quickly and accurately verify a person's identity. The events of September 11th have shown us that enforcement cannot be done effectively until Congress acts to protect against identity fraud and the current rampant misuse and falsification of domestic identification documents. Proven modern technologies and verification procedures, already used effectively daily in millions of private business transactions, are such that the integrity of existing basic identification documents issued by government agencies----such as birth certificates, drivers licenses and Social Security numbers----can be protected if government officials will utilize them. Congress must act promptly to see that this is done.
- **Manageable Immigration Levels:** The number of people admitted to our country must be set at reasonable levels consistent with America's national interests and needs (including protecting our people and workers' jobs), maintaining our quality of life, and our government's ability to manage the immigration process. Extended chain migration and the visa lottery should be ended.

In particular, and as an immediate first step, we believe that H.R. 3525, which makes significant improvements in our visa tracking system and which was passed by the House at the end of the last session, should be enacted into law promptly without weakening amendments. (*H.R. 3525 incorporates and enhances visa tracking provisions contained in S. 1749, sponsored by Senators Feinstein, Kennedy, Kyle, Brownback and many others.*) **We urge you to support H.R. 3525 and to call for Senate floor action and passage early this Session.**

We also strongly oppose legislation that would open further loopholes in our already flawed immigration laws. Thus, we oppose H. R. 1885 or any other measure that would reopen the controversial and dangerous Section 245(i) loophole. (*Section 245(i), if reinstated by Congress, would allow huge numbers of illegal aliens who are seeking Green Cards, including those who might be terrorists, to remain here instead of having to return to their homeland for a more thorough background screening and evaluation by U.S. Embassy experts.*) **We urge you to oppose reopening this Section 245(i) loophole.**

If you have questions regarding these issues, please contact Wright Andrews, Secure America's Legislative Coordinator, at 202-347-6875.