



News Release **JEFF SESSIONS** UNITED STATES SENATOR | ALABAMA

Gang Of Eight Bill Allows Millions Of Illegal Immigrants To Become Citizens In Five Years—And Bring Their Relatives On An Expedited Basis

- Those who qualify for the broad DREAM Act fast-track amnesty under S. 744—estimated by the Center for Immigration Studies’ Steve Camarota to be between two and three million people—are able to become citizens after being in registered provisional immigrant (RPI) status (the general amnesty) for five years. Those five years are deemed as having been spent in legal permanent resident status (under current law LPRs must wait five years before becoming citizens).
 - There is **NO AGE CAP** on eligibility
 - The Secretary of Homeland Security can allow a deported “DREAMer” who is outside the U.S. or who has re-entered the U.S. illegally after the December 31, 2011 cut-off date to apply for this status.
- Illegal agriculture workers will also be placed on an expedited path: green cards in five years and citizenship in 10. This could apply to almost a million people or more.
- So-called DREAMers will also be able to get green cards for their parents, spouses, and children five years from enactment. Those family members will then be eligible for citizenship five years after that.
- S. 744 would allow unlimited visas for the spouses and children of all green card holders—both those currently illegal and new legal immigrants, leading to exponential chain migration.
- In addition, under S. 744, any LPR can petition for visas for adult unmarried sons and daughters (but they must wait for a visa to become available). A citizen also will be able to petition for their married sons and daughters under the age of 31 if visas are available under the family-based visa cap.
- S. 744 appears to allow those who have been granted status under President Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy (DACA) to immediately adjust to LPR status under a “streamlined procedure” determined by the Secretary and consistent with the DACA requirements. These individuals may petition for visas for family members in the same manner as the LPRs described above. According to USCIS statistics, 472,004 DACA applications were accepted for review between August 2012 and March 2013; 268,361 were approved, 16,778 were deemed incomplete and required resubmission, and only 1,377 were denied.
- As with all illegal immigrants under S.744, eligibility is extended to those with two misdemeanor criminal convictions, those who have overstayed their visas, forged documents, absconded from removal proceedings, had felony arrests, etc.
- Taking into account the expedited legalization of illegal immigrants, the expansion of low-skill legal immigration, and the new avenues for chain migration, the bill would exponentially increase the number of people granted legal status.



Fox News poll: Majority says legal immigration should be reduced

By Dana Blanton / Published April 23, 2013

While most voters favor citizenship for illegal immigrants who meet certain requirements, there is widespread agreement that new border security should come first.

In addition, more than half say we should cut the number of legal immigrants allowed into the United States.

A just-released Fox News poll finds 55 percent of voters think fewer legal immigrants should be accepted into the U.S. That's up from 43 percent in 2010.

Majorities of Republicans (67 percent) and independents (53 percent) as well as a plurality of Democrats (47 percent) want to decrease legal immigration.

Overall, 28 percent of voters say the U.S. should increase legal immigration.

The U.S. Senate took up immigration reform this month. The debate took a turn with the Boston Marathon Bombings. The suspected terrorist who was killed in a police shootout was a legal permanent resident, while his still-hospitalized younger brother became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2011.

By a 78-21 percent margin, voters favor allowing immigrants in the U.S. illegally to become citizens after they meet requirements such as passing a background check. Support for a pathway to citizenship has increased slightly since February. At that time it was 72-25 percent.

Non-whites (88 percent), Democrats (87 percent) and those under age 35 (84 percent) are among those most likely to favor offering a pathway to citizenship.

Border security is another aspect of this issue, and opinions are changing. Nearly twice as many voters say border security is at the right level today (32 percent) as said so in 2010 (18 percent).

Still, the poll finds 60 percent of voters think it is not strict enough, and another 68 percent want new border security measures to be completed before changes to immigration policies.

Republicans (75 percent) are more likely than Democrats (66 percent) to say new security should be done first.

Overall, more voters think immigrants join society and “give to the country” (50 percent) than stay separate and “take from the country” (38 percent).

President Obama has lost ground on immigration: 39 percent of voters approve of the job he’s doing, down from 47 percent in February. A slim 51-percent majority disapproves now. The drop in approval comes from a decline among white voters; approval among non-whites held steady since February.

Some 47 percent of voters say illegal immigration is more of a problem today than it was five years ago. That’s nearly five times as many as the 10 percent who say it is less of a problem. Another 42 percent say it’s unchanged.

Still, immigration is a low priority for voters: four percent say it is the most important issue facing the country. That’s well behind the economy (42 percent) and the federal deficit (17 percent). Immigration also trails terrorism (9 percent), health care (7 percent), guns (5 percent) and Social Security (5 percent).

The Fox News poll is based on landline and cell phone interviews with 1,009 randomly chosen registered voters nationwide and was conducted under the joint direction of Anderson Robbins Research (D) and Shaw & Company Research (R) from April 20 to April 22. The full poll has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points.



55% Want Government to Deport Those Who Overstay Their Visas

Thursday, March 28, 2013

An estimated 40% to 45% of the 11 million illegal immigrants now in the United States are people who entered the country on legal visas and then stayed on after those visas expired. Most voters think the government should send those people home, but the Political Class disagrees.

A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey finds that 55% of Likely U.S. Voters believe the federal government should find these illegal immigrants and make them go home. Only 22% oppose such a policy, while just as many (23%) are not sure.

The national survey of 1,000 Likely Voters was conducted on March 20-21, 2013 by Rasmussen Reports. The margin of sampling error is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Field work for all Rasmussen Reports surveys is conducted by Pulse Opinion Research, LLC. See methodology.