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A CIS Weekly update on immigration policy related
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Immigration Opinions, 8/25/17

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[1.](#)

More Baloney from California's Chief Justice

By Dan Cadman

CIS Immigration Blog, August 25, 2017

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Cantil-Sakauye went on to say that "This is a national concern ... that deserves more attention. We're seeing people not coming to court, not reporting to court, not coming for services [and] not coming to testify. ... [T]his has an effect not only on the immediate case and the safety of communities, but people who live in the communities." This isn't the first time that she has made such claims, as I noted in April.

The claims are preposterous and deliberately misleading. That's because the sub-population of aliens being "stalked" (as she has phrased it) consists of those who have been charged with criminal offenses against the state of California, and who in addition are subject to removal from the United States for being here illegally — often as the direct consequence of their criminal histories.

If aliens are failing to appear for court, it almost certainly isn't because they are simply victims or witnesses; in fact, the immigration laws of the United States provide a multiplicity of ways in which ICE and other federal immigration officers can assist such people, as well as police and prosecutors, by providing them with legal status in order to remain and to come forward and testify against perpetrators of crimes, whether those perpetrators are citizens or aliens.

It is high time that someone challenged Cantil-Sakauye to establish the empirical basis of her inflammatory language. What "rising tide of violence"? That of illegal aliens upon other illegal aliens, as often happens in immigrant communities, especially those within sanctuary jurisdictions where alien criminals are released back into those communities to wreak further havoc or seek revenge against those who have testified against them? How can ICE be blamed for that madness?

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<https://cis.org/Cadman/More-Baloney-Californias-Chief-Justice>

2.

On the Notion of Fair Weather Federalism

By Dan Cadman

CIS Immigration Blog, August 24, 2017

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In the context of federal grants to state and local governments, it's true that the courts have held that withholding such funds cannot be unduly coercive, that such a sanction must have a logical connection to the purpose of the grants. In that context, the federal government has successfully held interstate highway funding hostage to such things as the lawful drinking age and speed limits established by states.

Using similar logic, though, if there isn't a nexus between withholding funds from state and local governments when those governments willfully impede enforcement of federal immigration laws, then I can't imagine when such a connection might successfully be shown.

Second, in our unique federal system, the Constitution makes clear that with a few exceptions reserved to the federal government, most powers are reserved to the people and to the sovereign states. But immigration is one of those things reserved to the federal government by the Constitution (as, by the way, gun rights are reserved to individuals under the second amendment), and it was done because our founders recognized that doing so was — and is — key to preserving the republic.

Imagine if each state were able to enact its own border laws and establish its own standards on what makes an alien (or other states' citizens for that matter) entitled to enter or subject to removal. Each state would in essence then be a nation-state, and not a part of any larger union.

It is precisely that kind of willful go-my-own-way attitude that ensured the failure of the Articles of Confederation and nearly killed our republic before it even had a chance to develop. And it is that self-same cavalier, and short-sighted, dismissal of unique federal powers where immigration is concerned that we are seeing in various sanctuary jurisdictions.

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<https://cis.org/Cadman/Notion-Fair-Weather-Federalism>

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3.

A Myopic Border Security Bill

By Dan Cadman

CIS Immigration Blog, August 21, 2017

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One of my major objections to McCaul's draft legislation is that it's almost exclusively a borders-only bill. This is a huge problem, given the realities and complexities of illegal immigration in our country, because such an approach suffers from a serious case of myopia.

For example, H.R. 3548 has nothing whatever to say about interior immigration enforcement, even though roughly half of the illegal alien population in the interior of the United States overstayed or violated the terms of their status after admission at ports of entry; it doesn't tackle the thorny but important issues of immigration detainers, sanctuary jurisdictions, and federal grant monies; and it has nothing to say about mandatory use of E-verify at all U.S. employers to help deny jobs to unlawful workers. It also does nothing to amend the asylum and credible-fear regimen that is a close corollary to the ebb and flow of aliens illegally crossing our borders. When the asylum system is subject to abuse, it is abused and that abuse feeds on itself with ever growing numbers of aliens who are able to trot out pre-scripted stories to fend off attempts at prompt removal.

Failure to deal with these things, not to mention the other singularly important immigration enforcement and control matters that don't relate to the immediate border environment, is a major miscalculation because it will be all too tempting for Congress to pass a limited and marginally effective immigration enforcement bill — such as this one — and then dust their hands off, turn to the American public, and declare "mission accomplished" even if they know that isn't so.

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<https://cis.org/Cadman/Myopic-Border-Security-Bill>

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4.

The Immigration Court Backlog Is Larger than We Know

An administrative closure pig in the backlog python

By Andrew R. Arthur

CIS Immigration Blog, August 24, 2017

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The good news is that the Trump administration has reversed the practice of administrative closure of cases that are not a priority, and has effectively eliminated prioritization as well, returning "prosecutorial discretion" to its proper role as a law-enforcement tool to be used on a case-by-case basis, not a blanket abdication of authority. AIC states that, "in fact, DHS is moving to recalendar cases that previously were administratively closed. Increasingly, attorneys will need to be prepared to file opposed motions for

administrative closure and to oppose DHS motions to recalendar previously closed cases."

While this is a positive development, at least in the short run the immigration court backlog will increase. As noted, I believe that there are at least 100,000 administratively closed cases, but there may be many more. Crucially, this means that, in fact, there may be more than 700,000 cases that are, or potentially could be, on the immigration courts' dockets.

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<https://cis.org/Arthur/Immigration-Court-Backlog-Larger-We-Know>

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5.

Won't Take Back Your Citizens? No Visas for You

Trump Pulls the Trigger on 243(d)

By Andrew R. Arthur

CIS Immigration Blog, August 24, 2017

At a July 2016 hearing before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (where I was serving as National Security Subcommittee staff director), it was revealed that (at that time) there were 953,507 aliens under final orders of removal who remained in the United States.

One factor in the large number of unexecuted orders of removal, the committee heard, was the fact that the State Department and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) were not utilizing a powerful tool: section 243(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). That section states:

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On August 22, 2017, the Washington Times reported that the Trump Administration had decided to enforce this provision against four so-called "recalcitrant" countries; that is, countries that have refused to accept back their nationals who are under orders of removal. The countries have not been named, but the Times reported that they are believed to be Cambodia, Eritrea, Guinea, and Sierra Leone.

Remarkably, the Obama administration refused to use its authority under this provision until just before the last election, utilizing it once (against The Gambia) under congressional pressure in October 2016, despite the fact that the State Department had admitted it was a "very, very powerful tool". To understand the effectiveness of section 243(d) of the INA, it is only necessary to look at the first instance in which it was employed in the past, almost 16 years ago.

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<https://cis.org/Arthur/Wont-Take-Back-Your-Citizens-No-Visas-You>

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6.

View of the Border from the Rio Grande Valley and Del Rio

By Andrew R. Arthur

CIS Immigration Blog, August 22, 2017

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Eradication of the cane, and improvement of the infrastructure on the American side would give law enforcement a better opportunity to apprehend alien and drug smugglers seeking illegal entry to the United States. Border fencing, at least along the unoccupied sections of the river, would certainly be a deterrent.

In that regard, a large levee that sits along a part of the river acts as a virtual wall for a stretch. Occasional heavy rains, and releases of water from dams upstream, have made those levees a necessity. Additional levee walls could serve a double purpose, acting as both flood control and an entry deterrent.

It should be noted that the Border Patrol Agents are not alone in their efforts to stop illicit cross-river trade. The troopers on the Texas Highway Patrol boats (which according to Fox News are "outfitted with bullet-proof panels, fully automatic machine guns and 900-horsepower engines") have authority to ensure compliance with navigation laws, requirements smugglers reportedly usually fail to obey.

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The landscape changes as you ride down U.S. 83 from McAllen to Roma. Largely absent are the chain restaurants and stores that fill the landscape to the east, replaced by any number of used-car and used-tire stores, road-side "carwashes" (consisting of a shed and a hand-held power washer open to the highway), ice-cream and candy kiosks that keep irregular hours, and small restaurants and food stands, in addition to chain gas station/convenience stores. Only a couple of miles separate the river from the highway along this stretch, much of which consists of large undeveloped properties. It is easy to imagine that any number of people in this area may serve as scouts for smuggling operations, but it would be all but impossible to know who.

...

In summary, there appeared to be strong cooperation between federal, state, and local officials in both the RGV and Del Rio in stemming the tide of illegal entrants and drug smuggling along the Rio Grande river. Significant resources have been employed in the most heavily trafficked areas of the river to respond to illegal entrants. The government could take additional actions to secure the border in these areas, however new barriers could be erected where appropriate, access roads could be built or improved, and additional technology could be employed to both identify and deter illegal entries in these highly vulnerable areas. Importantly as well, the non-native carrizo cane that chokes the riverbanks on the American side of the river should be eradicated, and replaced with either a river wall or vegetation that does not provide the same cover to those avoiding the legal ports of entry.

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<https://cis.org/Arthur/View-Border-Rio-Grande-Valley-and-Del-Rio>

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7.

Using a Scalpel, Not a Sledgehammer, on Some Migration Issues

By David North

CIS Immigration Blog, August 22, 2017

Sometimes the Trump administration approaches immigration policy matters with what looks like a sledgehammer, as in "A Big Beautiful Wall" or "Ban the Muslims".

Sometimes it does nothing at all, like continuing to give some families with illegal alien workers in them access to food stamps (now SNAP), when equivalent all-citizen families with *exactly* the same income are denied the benefits.

But sometimes it seems to use a scalpel, not a sledgehammer, to implement its policies.

What I have in mind stems from complaints from lawyers hired by H-1B users about how many USCIS adjudicators are now treating some of the H-1B applications that have managed to get through the annual lottery. (Getting through the lottery means that the application *may* be selected, but it does not mean that it is *automatically* selected.)

Probably with a prod from the Trump administration, staff adjudicators are sending what employers regard as an ominous form, the Request for Evidence (RFE), to some of those who have sought these workers to make sure that the workers are, indeed, qualified for H-1B positions and that they have the specialized knowledge and experience to do the work. One entity helping employers with these inquiries, CCI, used this headline for a posting on the subject:

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<https://cis.org/North/Using-Scalpel-Not-Sledgehammer-Some-Migration-Issues>

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8.

Peace Through Border Security

By Ann Coulter

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During the Cold War, America was facing an aggressively imperialistic, nuclear-armed Soviet Union. By contrast, the main threat to Americans' safety today comes not from a country, but from millions of individual savages spread throughout the globe.

Americans aren't being slaughtered by invading Soviet troops, "Red Dawn"-style, but by Islamic terrorists on tourist visas flying commercial airplanes into our skyscrapers, and by first- and second-generation Muslim immigrants setting off bombs and shooting people at the Boston Marathon, American military bases, community centers and gay nightclubs.

Americans are raped, addicted and murdered not by the Red Army, but by millions of illegal aliens waltzing across our wide-open border.

...

We don't need a military victory. We need an immigration moratorium.

The Non-Trump Republicans promised us only more immigration and more wars. PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH!

How does a military buildup help Kate Steinle? How about the 3,000 Americans killed on 9/11? Did Obama's escalation of the war in Afghanistan protect soldiers at Fort Hood or nightclubbers in Orlando? Did it do anything for Grant Ronnebeck, who was fatally shot by an illegal alien robbing a convenience store in Mesa, Arizona, in 2015?

...

<http://humanevents.com/2017/08/23/peace-through-border-security/>

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9.

Democrats are Already Trashing a Potential Immigration Deal From Trump. Here's Why.

By Guy Benson

Townhall.com, August 22, 2017

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On paper, offering Democrats the formalization of DACA in return for concessions on immigration enforcement measures is a reasonable gambit. But if the White House believes Democratic leadership will go for it, they're -- well -- dreaming. Democrats have moved hard left on immigration, in service of both their identity politics obsession and their zeal to thwart Trump on his signature campaign issue. Their "resistance" base will angrily demand that they stop at nothing to prevent the president from fulfilling his most memorable electoral promise: Building the wall. Even if Trump offered them a clean trade -- DACA for

the wall -- Democrats would almost certainly rebuff the proposal. Asking them to sign on to additional immigration enforcement items and to curtail legal immigration (even if some Trump-endorsed policies garner wide support) will be back-handed away as a non-starter. Democrats aren't willing to do anything that might be construed as delivering a "win" to Trump at the expense of their hardcore voters.

There's another element to this equation, too. Democrats don't view making the DREAM Act permanent as a political win because they believe (a) they've already won the PR and policy battle on this front, and (b) it's probably more valuable to them as a plausibly "live" issue. The fact that Trump extended Obama's executive foray means that it's now a fact of life in Washington, so they see little practical risk that DREAMers' legal status will be revoked in the future. Meanwhile, using DREAMers as a talking point on immigration, and raising the specter of what those heartless Republicans *might* do to those poor kids, is a strong demagogic temptation. From a cynical perspective, taking the issue off the table (with a Republican president getting credit, no less) would be something of a lose-lose for Democrats -- especially if they help Trump implement even more of his agenda in the process. That's why you're seeing immediate, faux-indignant rejections like this from Democratic leaders:

. . .

<https://townhall.com/tipsheet/guybenson/2017/08/22/hmmm-trump-wh-gearing-up-for-immigration-deal-n2371763>

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10.

Asking the Wrong Question on Immigration

By Ramesh Ponnuru

The Corner at National Review Online, August 24, 2017

Most Americans wouldn't qualify to come to the U.S. under the skills test proposed by new immigration legislation, reports the New York Times. That fact has become a major talking point for opponents of the Cotton-Perdue bill. You may recall how political analyst Stuart Rothenberg clumsily noted that a lot of West Virginians wouldn't qualify. The article is titled, "How Many Americans Would Pass an Immigration Test Endorsed by Trump?"

It's not a helpful question for thinking through immigration policy. A lot of people want to come here. Maybe there's an argument for not selecting the cream of the crop, or for the absurdity of the criteria that Cotton-Perdue uses for selection. But that argument can't be that a lot of our fellow citizens would not qualify if, hypothetically, they were foreigners. That just shows that the selection criteria are doing their job. The problem with the Rothenberg argument is that it assumes, without defending, the peculiar view that our immigration policy should treat would-be immigrants on par with Americans.

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11.

It's Time To Finally Cut Off The Jobs Magnet For Illegal Immigrants

By Robert Law

TheHill.com, August 18, 2017

E-Verify takes the guesswork out of the hiring process and puts all employers on a level playing field. Electronic verification would render counterfeit and stolen documents useless while offering employers an easy tool for ensuring the legality of workers. Although any employer can voluntarily participate now, few do because they either want to hire illegal aliens, or are forced to by the government's refusal to crack down on competitors that blatantly favor illegal aliens over qualified Americans.

A recent report by the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) demonstrated the benefits of E-Verify. The study examined 14 states that have created or expanded E-Verify laws since 2009, the year the nation began to bounce back from the last big recession. Those states experienced a much quicker labor market recovery than the nation as a whole.

Why? Because E-Verify ensures that only authorized workers are hired, which not only helps America's struggling middle and blue collar classes but also injects much-needed revenues into the local tax base as well. Jobs taken by illegal immigrants are most often off the books, with zero payroll taxes collected by local and federal governments.

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<http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/immigration/347094-its-time-to-finally-cut-off-the-jobs-magnet-for-illegal>

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12.

Homeland Security Secretary: Border Walls Work. Yuma Sector Proves It.

By Elaine Duke

USAToday.com, August 22, 2017

We built new infrastructure along the border east and west of the San Luis Arizona Port of Entry in 2006.

The existing fence was quickly lengthened, and we added second and third layers to that fencing in urban areas. Lighting, roads and increased surveillance were added to aid agents patrolling the border.

Although there is still work to do, the border in Yuma sector today is more secure because of this investment. Even under lax enforcement standards, apprehensions in fiscal year 2016 were roughly a 10th of what they were in FY 2005 — and are on track to be even lower this year. Crime has significantly decreased in the Yuma area, and smugglers now look for other less difficult areas of the border to cross — often areas without fencing.

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<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2017/08/22/homeland-security-secretary-border-walls-work-yuma-sector-proves-it-elaine-duke-column/586853001/>

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13.

The Amnesty Lobby, aka the Democratic Party, Drops any Pretense of Supporting Immigration Enforcement

By Ira Mehlman

ImmigrationReform.com, August 24, 2017

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Up until a few years ago, the Democratic leadership was willing to pretend that they would support enhanced immigration enforcement in exchange for amnesty for illegal aliens. No more. The mere rumor that the White House is working on a deal that includes construction of the border fence, more detention for illegal border-crossers, and mandatory E-Verify in exchange for a DREAM Act amnesty, now evokes righteous indignation from the Democratic leadership.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) flatly rejected the idea. "Dreamers are not a bargaining chip for the border wall and inhumane deportation. Period," he tweeted. (For the record, Schumer voted in favor of the border wall in 2006.) On the other side of the Hill, Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was even more adamant, asserting that it is "reprehensible to treat children as bargaining chips...Dreamers are not negotiable."

And those were the cooler heads weighing in. The George Soros-funded amnesty mob responded with outright militancy. The Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM) railed against the suggestion that our immigration laws should be enforced. The enforcement measures in the rumored deal are "nothing more than a wish list for xenophobes that holds 800,000 DREAMers hostage in an attempt to execute their ethnic cleansing agenda," they charged in a press release.

In retrospect, these responses from the Democratic leadership and the massively funded amnesty lobby

highlight just how important the defeat of the Gang of Eight bill was. Schumer, Pelosi, et al, never had the slightest intention of honoring any of the bill's promises of future enforcement. Quite frankly, many in the Republican leadership were just pretending too.

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<http://immigrationreform.com/2017/08/24/amnesty-lobby-aka-democratic-party-drops-pretense-supporting-immigration-enforcement/>

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14.

Will Trump Really Give Up on Revoking DACA to Build the Wall?

Enforcement advocates warn president to proceed with caution as he bargains over key campaign promise

By Jim Stinson

Lifetzette.com, August 23, 2017

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But instead, according to a Tuesday report from the McClatchy newspaper chain, Trump will abandon his promise and use DACA as a bargaining chip for the construction of a border wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, along with some other immigration priorities of the White House.

"The White House officials want Trump to strike an ambitious deal with Congress that offers DREAMers protection in exchange for legislation that pays for a border wall and more detention facilities, curbs legal immigration, and implements E-verify, an online system that allows businesses to check immigration status, according to a half-dozen people familiar with [the] situation, most involved with the negotiations," McClatchy reported.

McClatchy noted the officials lobbying Trump to turn his back on his DACA promise are his daughter, Ivanka Trump; son-in-law Jared Kushner; economic adviser Gary Cohn; H.R. McMaster, the national security adviser; and John Kelly, the new chief of staff.

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<http://www.lifetzette.com/polizette/will-trump-really-give-up-on-revoking-daca-to-build-the-wall/>

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15.

Phoenix Becomes Illegal Alien Sanctuary after Leftist Group Orders it in Private Meeting with Police

2019-10-10 06:15:37

Chief

Judicial Watch Corruption Chronicles, August 22, 2017

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Judicial Watch exposed the abrupt policy revision last month after obtaining a copy of the Phoenix Police Department's new sanctuary Immigration Procedures and filed a public records request to uncover the steps that led to the change. Law enforcement sources told Judicial Watch in July that the revisions were crafted by a Hispanic advisory committee that promotes open borders with the backing of the influential ACLU. It appears to be part of a broader scheme to dodge federal immigration laws in Arizona's most populous county. Earlier this year Judicial Watch reported that the newly elected sheriff in Maricopa County, which includes Phoenix, was releasing hundreds of criminal illegal immigrants—including violent offenders—from county jail facilities to protect them from deportation.

The new records obtained by Judicial Watch show that an ACLU offshoot known as People Power attempted to meet with Williams, who became chief on October 28, 2016, on April 19, 2017 to order the policy change. It's not clear if that meeting took place, but it appears that it did not and People Power called in the big guns at the ACLU. That's when Goana, who also lobbies the Arizona legislature on civil liberties issues, met privately with the chief, on May 9, according to the records. People Power reps followed up with a meeting request on May 16 to discuss the Phoenix Police Department's immigration policy changes with Chief Williams, the records show. The meeting occurred on June 9, about a week after Phoenix City Manager Ed Zuercher met with People Power and gave the group a glowing review. In his assessment, the city manager describes the leftist group as "one of the most reasonable groups I've talked with" and says it consisted of "a former high school teacher, a magazine editor, 2 attys, a massage therapist, and two Hispanic advocates who I've never seen before." On June 29, Chief Williams had a follow-up meeting with the ACLU and People Power regarding the changes to the immigration policy, the records show.

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<http://www.judicialwatch.org/blog/2017/08/phoenix-becomes-illegal-alien-sanctuary-leftist-group-orders-private-meeting-police-chief/>

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16.

Time for Trump to Triangulate

On infrastructure, legal immigration, and health care, the White House can support piecemeal policies that bring together populists, conservatives, and even a few Democrats.

By Fred Bauer

National Review Online, April 17, 2017

...

Slash guest-worker programs. While the Trump administration is making significant steps to improve the enforcement of immigration laws, the legal immigration system needs work, too. Reforming the immigration

system so that it better advances opportunity and a sense of civic belonging would be a transformative achievement. But there's no reason that major reform has to be the only legislative option.

An effort to sunset or radically reduce most guest-worker programs would be a modest policy proposal that could pave the way for further reforms. Outside corporate lobbyists and tech CEOs, guest-worker programs have little political constituency. The H-2B visa undercuts workers without college degrees, who have already seen their wages pummeled by trends in trade and automation. Meanwhile, the H-1B visa discourages corporate investment in the domestic workforce. It undermines white-collar professionals and, in distorting the market, also hinders the employment prospects of college graduates.

Rolling back guest-worker programs could unite conservatives, populists, and even some progressives. From a free-market perspective, guest-worker programs are almost impossible to justify: By importing a class of workers who do not have the full freedom to bargain for their labor, guest-worker programs subvert the free market. Moreover, they subvert it in a way that injures the economic prospects of the average worker, a fact that can push populists and the remaining pro-worker progressives to oppose those programs, too. In fragmenting the body politic into citizens and helots, guest-worker programs corrode the politics of a republic even more than they do its economics.

. . .

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/446784/trump-populists-conservatives-triangulation-domestically-can-bring-wins>

<http://www.thetribunepapers.com/2017/08/10/fixing-the-great-immigration-swindle-the-battle-for-merit-based-immigration-reform/>

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17.

Trump's Dumb Dance on Immigration

He will almost certainly let his restrictionist fans down.

By Michael Brendan Dougherty

National Review Online, August 23, 2017

. . .

It is almost certain that Trump will fall far short of the expectations of his restrictionist fans now. He told you he wasn't serious. He practically mocked his supporters and admitted that the wall was just to get their juices flowing: "If it gets a little boring . . . I just say, 'We will build the wall!'" You can't say that you weren't told.

. . .

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/450733/trump-immigration-promises-will-not-be-kept>

18.

Mexican Sewage Warfare Blocking Border Enforcement, Agent Warns

By Monica Showalter

American Thinker Blog, August 21, 2017

...

Christopher J. Harris, senior patrol agent at the Border Patrol and a top official with Local 16 of the National Border Patrol Council, told an American Freedom Alliance conference Sunday in Los Angeles that the situation in Imperial Beach, where Mexican raw sewage is being pumped onto San Diego beaches with impunity, is more than just ruined beaches and noxious smells, as the media have reported. It's a toxic hazard to those who serve in the capacity of border security.

"Agents come to me with chemical burns, with shoelaces and bootlaces that have dissolved. You don't get to that area on border," Harris said, without encountering the toxic sludge.

For Harris, who works with the Border Patrol's union, it's an unacceptable risk for agents whose jobs already are some of the most dangerous in the country. Referring to the rocks and gunfire border agents regularly encounter as they go up against human traffickers and smuggling cartels, he said: "We are willing to be assaulted, but we not willing to work in a chemical dump," he said. "It's chemicals in four or five areas, and you can smell it."

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http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2017/08/mexican_sewage_warfare_blocking_border_enforcement_agent_warns.html

19.

Trump's Merkel Moment? West Wing Dems' Plan to Keep DACA Will Increase Illegal Immigration Pull Factors

By Raheem Kassam

Breitbart.com News, August 22, 2017

...

Germany has a history — over five decades long — with Turkish inward migration. I use this constituency to give Merkel the benefit of the doubt — no first wave or first generation of migrants, despite her lofty

promises, have ever got steady jobs that quickly, nor have they integrated immediately. So let's look at Germany's Turkish population, those who have been in the country for over half a century.

Figures published in July 2017 revealed that almost every second Turk of working age in the nation is "economically inactive". The major German newspaper Die Welt added in its report on the matter: "The vast majority of the [Turks who are] economically inactive declare that — at least for the moment — they are not interested in a job."

Just this week it became clear that Turkey's President Recip Erdogan was able to influence millions of voters across Germany, especially with the country's federal elections on the horizon.

Speaking to a Turkish News Agency last week, Erdogan insisted: "I would say to all compatriots in Germany, do not support [the Christian Democrats]... Not the Christian Democrats, not the SPD [Social Democrats], not the Greens. They are all enemies of Turkey."

...
The decision President Trump has to make vis-a-vis DACA — the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals — is not a direct parallel. Firstly, obviously, this is about children who have entered the country illegally. Secondly, there are no immediate low-skilled job or electoral implications.

But there are several parallels, the first being the undermining of the rule of law.

Even the most liberal Western leader in the world today, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau — discouraged illegal immigration into his country, stating: "If I could directly speak to people seeking asylum, I'd like to remind them there's no advantage [to crossing into Canada illegally]... Our rules, our principles and our laws apply to everyone."

What DACA does is nullify such principles, the same as which President Trump made during his political campaign, pre-November 2016.

...
<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/08/22/trumps-merkel-moment-west-wing-dems-plan-keep-daca-will-increase-illegal-immigration-pull-factors/>

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20.

Time To Clean Up The H-1B Visa Mill

The Tuscaloosa News, August 16, 2017

Employers and some economists are at odds over the extent to which companies face a shortage of

American workers to fill tech and other skilled jobs. A frequently cited figure of 500,000 unfilled positions may be somewhat inflated, but there is no doubt that U.S. colleges and universities cannot keep up with the demand for graduates, especially with advanced and highly specialized degrees.

Hence the importance of the H-1B program, which grants 85,000 visas annually to guest workers, nearly three-quarters of them from India -- a fraction of the overall applications. Of that number, many have only bachelor's degrees and are chosen by lottery; just 20,000 are foreign graduates of U.S. universities with advanced degrees.

Reforms are needed on several fronts. For starters, H-1B visa holders already in the country should be allowed to change jobs to prevent their exploitation by employers. More fundamentally, the program should be retooled to ensure that genuinely high-skilled labor is prioritized, not that of entry-level programmers. That may disadvantage the big Indian outsourcing firms that flood the system with applications; so be it.

...

<http://www.tuscaloosaneews.com/news/20170416/editorial-time-to-clean-up-h-1b-visa-mill>

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21.

Fixing the Great Immigration Swindle: The Battle for Merit Based Immigration Reform

By Mike Scruggs

TheTribunepapers.com, August 10, 2017

The bottom line of our immigration policy is that the small \$54.2 Billion economic gain attributed to immigration is heavily outweighed by net government fiscal costs of approximately \$172 Billion to support immigrant labor. The economic benefit itself results from an annual \$493.9 Billion swindle of American workers, so businesses can boost their profits by importing cheaper foreign labor. Furthermore, the annual \$172 Billion fiscal deficit is essentially a transfer of income from taxpayers to governments to benefit businesses that use cheap foreign labor. It is essentially an outrageous business subsidy to hire foreign workers instead of American workers. This is both fiscally and morally irresponsible and an insult to every patriotic American.

...

<http://www.thetribunepapers.com/2017/08/10/fixing-the-great-immigration-swindle-the-battle-for-merit-based-immigration-reform/>

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22.

Our Contradictory American Values

By Norm Matloff

NormSaysNo.wordpress.com, August 23, 2017

. . .

As I reported recently regarding PayPal, and has now been seen for companies such as Google, some social network and online commerce companies have started to refuse service to right-wing extremist “hate” groups. In principle I applaud such policies. But as many have pointed out, there are very serious questions as to “where to draw the line.”

Putting aside the obvious inconsistencies — last I heard, PayPal continues to serve the violent leftist group Antifa — Mark Krikorian of the Center for Immigration Studies writes that Twitter has been censoring any tweet of his that mentions the term *illegal immigration*.

. . .

In addition, even if debate, say on the key issue of immigration, is not explicitly stifled, the dissemination of information — obviously a central ingredient to constructive discussion — is being suppressed. Take the two reports by the august National Academies of Science (NAS), for instance. The 1997 commission found that “[in] California, each native household now pays an additional \$1,200 a year [in taxes] because of immigration.”

. . .

<https://normsaysno.wordpress.com/2017/08/19/our-contradictory-american-values/>

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23.

On Immigration, Mr. President, Pick a Fight — and Win It

By Jenny Beth Martin

TheHill.com, August 24, 2017

. . .

So instead of pursuing a terrible deal, here’s an idea for the White House: Use the bully pulpit to make the case for border wall funding.

The political argument against it is that because the filibuster exists, Senate Democrats have the power to block funding.

They do, in fact — but only if all 48 of them vote to sustain a veto.

So send the president to West Virginia, North Dakota, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Florida, Montana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin – where there are Democratic Senators running for reelection in 2018 in states the president won in 2016 – and make the argument for funding the border wall.

Explain the success of the border wall in Yuma, Arizona, which saw an 82 percent drop in apprehensions of illegal border-crossers after 57 miles of wall and fencing infrastructure was built following the enactment of the 2006 Secure Fence Act.

Put Democratic Sens. Joe Manchin (W.V.), Heidi Heitkamp (N.D.), Joe Donnelly (Del.), Claire McCaskill (Mont.), Sherrod Brown (Ohio), Bill Nelson (Fla.), Jon Tester (Mont.), Debbie Stabenow (Mich.), Bob Casey (Penn.), and Tammy Baldwin (Wis.) on the spot. Have the Republican National Committee and the National Republican Senatorial Committee throw some advertising on the air, and work with grassroots groups like Tea Party Patriots and others to pressure these targeted senators back home.

In other words, pick a fight — and win it.

...

<http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/immigration/347774-on-immigration-mr-president-pick-a-fight-and-win-it>

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24.

Senator Smackdown Eyes Higher Office

California's aspiring Feinstein replacement is a foe of free speech.

By Lloyd Billingsley

FrontPageMag.com, August 24, 2017

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Locals found the story entertaining but for journalist Stephen Greenhut, it read like damage control. In a hearing the previous month, De Leon testified that "half of my family" would be eligible for deportation under Trump's executive order, because they used false Social Security cards and other bogus identification. As Greenhut noted, "using a false Social Security number is not a victimless crime."

Clearly, there is more going on with this guy than "The untold story of how Kevin Leon became Kevin de León," as the *Sacramento Bee* headlined the tale. Cadelago conveniently failed to show any documentation, so readers had to take the senate boss's word for it. For the man who "spent time on both sides of the border," other realities were a matter of record.

When repeatedly deported Mexican national Luis Bracamontes shot and killed two sheriff's deputies, the California senate boss previously known as Kevin Alexander Leon, who "identifies strongly with Mexican culture," made no move to help law enforcement deport violent criminal illegals. When Juan Francisco

Lopez-Sanchez gunned down Kathryn Steinle on a San Francisco pier, California's senate president, whose family used fake Social Security cards, did not make a case against sanctuary cities.

After Islamic terrorists Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik murdered 14 innocents and wounded more than 20 in San Bernardino in December, 2015, California's senate boss Kevin de León announced no plans for hearings on any "cancerous" ideology threatening American values and public safety. His response was to push for more gun control and denounce detachable magazines, in the same style as Dianne Feinstein, the U.S. Senator he may attempt to replace in 2018.

...
<http://www.frontpagemag.com/fpm/267680/senator-smackdown-eyes-higher-office-lloyd-billingsley>

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25.

Silicon Valley is Using H-1B Visas to Crowd Out American Minorities

By Tom Broadwater

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 23, 2017

Silicon Valley's highly publicized campaign to hire minorities and women has failed. Black and Hispanic employees combined represent just 5 percent of the tech workforce, and women are outnumbered three to one, according to a new study from the software firm Atlassian.

...
One reason for this glaring gap between perception and reality? The sector's prolific use of H-1B guest worker visas. Silicon Valley has grossly abused this visa program to take advantage of cheap foreign labor and paper over its diversity problem. Meanwhile, American workers -- especially those of color -- find themselves crowded out of the tech job market.

...
http://www.stltoday.com/opinion/columnists/silicon-valley-is-using-h--b-visas-to-crowd/article_2c3ac63c-360a-5c79-88b2-729d8673aa28.html

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26.

What Will Happen If Trump Kills DACA: A Timeline of Expiration

By David Bier

If DHS cancels the DACA memo, it's unclear whether the underlying deferred action grants would disappear. The threat letter from the states only requests that "the Executive Branch will not renew or issue any new DACA or Expanded DACA permits in the future." The form itself states that it will "remain in effect for 2 years" unless "terminated." Does this require an individualized termination for some violation of the program's rules or would the termination of the program under which the form was issued suffice?

When Secretary Kelly rescinded the DAPA and Expanded DACA memo, he specifically stated that the memo would not "alter the remaining periods of deferred action under the Expanded DACA policy granted between the issuance of the November 20, 2014 Memorandum and the February 16, 2015 preliminary injunction order in the Texas litigation." This refers to the 3-year renewals issued to original DACA recipients who, both before the November 20th DAPA/Expanded DACA memo and after the injunction, received only 2-year renewals. It is possible that the administration could duplicate this language in the DACA repeal itself.

...

<https://www.cato.org/blog/what-will-happen-trump-kills-daca-timeline-expiration>

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27.

Does the GOP Forget What Happened When America Rejected Jews From Nazi Germany?

By Susan Martin

Fortune.com, August 4, 2017

...

Second, the RAISE Act would impose a hard ceiling on refugee admissions, allowing a maximum of 50,000 visas per year. The commission recommended a *floor* on admissions of 50,000, stating that foreign policy and humanitarian imperatives necessitated that the U.S. take a strong leadership role in assisting and protecting refugees worldwide. The commission saw resettlement of refugees as one of the core durable solutions to refugee crises and believed America should lead by example. It believed that consultations with Congress, as specified in the Refugee Act of 1980, would be an effective mechanism for increasing admissions beyond the 50,000 floor when necessary. Indeed, the commission recommended that the president have even greater authority to raise the ceiling on admissions in the case of the type of refugee emergencies experienced worldwide today.

The commission was cognizant of the dire consequences of the inflexibility of U.S. refugee policies in the 1930s when the government rejected thousands of Jewish and other refugees from Nazi Germany who subsequently died in the Holocaust. The RAISE Act would bring back those dark days with a hard ceiling on refugee admissions even when crises require flexibility.

...
<http://fortune.com/2017/08/04/trump-gop-legal-immigration-bill-raise-act-english/>

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28.

Bordering on Contempt: Donald Trump's Immigration Radicalism

The New York Daily News, August 23, 2017

...

Tuesday, Trump mocked the justice system that serves as a critical check on executive power: "Was Sheriff Joe convicted for doing his job?" he asked the crowd, then teased:

"I'll make a prediction — I think he is going to be just fine. But I won't do it tonight because I don't want to cause any controversy. But Sheriff Joe can feel good."

A looming pardon of a law enforcement official who willfully ignored a federal court order — and a looming threat of a government shutdown over a multi-billion-dollar expenditure that the President promised wouldn't cost us a dime.

...

<http://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/bordering-contempt-donald-trump-immigration-radicalism-article-1.3436964>

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29.

On Immigration, Trump Has an Offer Dems Can Easily Refuse

By Steve Benen

MSNBC.com, August 23, 2017

...

At first blush, this may sound like the basis for a compromise. Democrats would get protections for young immigrants — the existing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy — while Republicans would get a border wall, cuts to legal immigration, the E-verify system, and detention facilities for undocumented immigrants, among other things.

Except, it's not really a trade-off in any meaningful sense, since Democrats have what they want: the DACA

policy for young Dreamers already exists. Instead, it's more of a hostage strategy: Trump is saying he'll destroy DACA unless Congress approves all of the other goodies on his immigration wish list.

Trump's promises about Mexico paying for the wall are out. Trump looking for ways to force Congress to give him taxpayer dollars is in, even if he has to use hundreds of thousands of kids as leverage.

...

<http://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/immigration-trump-has-offer-dems-can-easily-refuse>

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30.

Trust Act is the Right Move for Immigrants — and for Illinois

The Chicago Tribune, August 22, 2017

...

Under the revised bill, state and local police would not arrest or hold a person based solely on immigration status. They would not honor a request from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to hold someone unless a judge issued a warrant. That's consistent with a U.S. District Court judge's ruling last December that federal detainers — which ask local cops to hold suspects who would otherwise be eligible for release — are unlawful. And it's tailored to avoid conflicts with the U.S. Department of Justice, which has threatened to withhold federal law enforcement grants from so-called sanctuary cities. It says explicitly that local police can communicate freely with the feds.

It's a perfectly reasonable framework that local governments are nonetheless free to reject.

What's left is a measure that would give immigrants some peace of mind as they go about their lives — working, shopping, paying taxes and contributing to their communities. It would promote trust between immigrants and police. In a letter to Rauner, several law enforcement leaders pointed out that crime victims and witnesses are reluctant to come forward for fear that they or a family member could be deported as a result. That means crimes go unreported, and residents are less safe.

...

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-immigration-bill-rauner-trust-0823-story.html>

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31.

Trudeau Cracks Down on Illegal Immigration

By Philip H. DeVoe

The Corner at National Review Online, August 22, 2017

...

Evidently, Trudeau is recognizing what any head of state who campaigns for radically loose immigration policies must at some point: Opening borders poses serious problems, both practical and political. Angela Merkel is facing pressure to accept an upper limit of refugees in Germany, and many see Britain's exit from the European Union as a rebellion against the EU's more liberal refugee policy.

Canada's refugee problem has grown exponentially in the past few months. In all of 2015, only 2,900 crossed over the U.S. border into Quebec illegally. Since July 1 of this year, that number has reached 6,800. Over half of those account for the first two weeks of August alone. A large number of these have fled the U.S. in fear of Donald Trump's aggressive stance on illegal immigration and his proposal to make legal immigration a more exclusive process. Trudeau has not been vague on social media in his criticism of Trump's border control policies, tweeting in January that Canada welcomes all, because "diversity is our strength."

...

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/450712/justin-trudeau-illegal-refugee-crackdown>

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32.

History May Not be Kind to Angela Merkel

Sharia-adherents are flooding Europe to conquer and destroy it.

By Joseph Puder

FrontPageMag.com, August 24, 2017

...

The European Union has done little to consider PM Netanyahu's call. Open borders, lenient punishment for Muslim immigrant rapists, and oftentimes siding with Islamist groups such as Hamas in Gaza, the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah, Hezbollah, and other terrorist groups against Israel, defeats the call for unity and European self-preservation.

Merkel's Germany and the European Union states (except Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary) have abandoned the most important value any government must adhere to – the protection of their citizens' lives. Both Merkel and French President Emanuel Macron, the two major European Union (EU) leaders, are childless. Therefore, they are less attached to what the consequences of their actions. For Merkel and many of the EU leaders in Western Europe and Scandinavia, multiculturalism and political correctness are supreme values. Pride in their Judeo-Christian heritage is not a prized nor a considered value.

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The Center for Immigration Studies is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research organization founded in 1985. It is the nation's only think tank devoted exclusively to research and policy analysis of the economic, social, demographic, fiscal, and other impacts of immigration on the United States.

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