



CONGRESSMAN GARY G. MILLER

PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA'S 42ND DISTRICT



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Rep. Gary Miller's Statement on Proposed Legislation in Arizona to Deny Citizenship to Anchor Babies

WASHINGTON, DC – Following press reports that Arizona State Senator Russell Pearce will soon introduce legislation to deny citizenship to anchor babies, Congressman Gary Miller released the following statement:

“Birthright citizenship is yet another loophole in our laws that encourages and facilitates illegal immigration. In fact, approximately 200,000 to 300,000 babies are born to illegal immigrants each year. It is unfair to grant birthright citizenship to children of illegal immigrants because it undermines the intention of the 14th Amendment and rewards those that have recklessly broken our nation’s immigration laws.

“By granting children of illegal immigrants citizenship, the child can eventually anchor an entire family in the United States, even though they gained access to our nation illegally. In addition, the child – and potentially their family – will have access to a wide array of taxpayer-funded benefits, including access to a U.S. education and recently enacted government-run health care. As the United States is one of the few remaining countries to grant citizenship to all children born on its soil, it is time to put an end to this practice. I commend Senator Pearce for working on this issue at the state level.”

Congressman Gary Miller is the first sponsor of H.R. 1868, the Birthright Citizenship Act, which would deny citizenship at birth to children born in the United States to parents who are not citizens or legal permanent resident aliens. He is also the author of H.R. 994, the Loophole Elimination and Verification Enforcement (LEAVE) Act, which – among its many provisions – would also deny citizenship to anchor babies.

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