



CONGRESSMAN GARY G. MILLER

PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA'S 42ND DISTRICT



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Congressman Miller Urges Retention of Key Immigration Provisions in the FY 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Gary Miller and several of his colleagues called on House Appropriators to retain four crucial immigration-related provisions contained in the Senate-passed version of the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill. In the wake of a weakened economy and growing violence along the U.S.-Mexico border, these provisions will help make sure available jobs are reserved for legal workers and protect American communities from drug-related violence.

“We write to request that four immigration-related provisions contained in the Senate-passed version of the FY 2010 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill be retained in the conference report to H.R. 2892,” the letter states. “Each of these meritorious provisions was accepted or approved after being offered as an amendment on the Senate Floor.”

“First, Senator Jeff Sessions offered an amendment that makes the E-Verify program permanent and ensures it is mandatory for federal contractors. Second, an amendment, offered by Senator David Vitter, prohibits funds from being used to rescind the Department’s ‘No-Match’ Rule. Third, Senator Chuck Grassley offered an amendment to allow all employers to use E-Verify to check the work eligibility of current employees. And finally, Senator Jim DeMint offered an amendment to require the completion by December 31, 2010 of 700 miles of reinforced pedestrian fencing along the southwest U.S. border.”

“E-Verify is a cost-effective and dependable process currently used by over 150,000 employers, giving them the ability to verify the Social Security numbers provided by newly hired employees. With American jobs disappearing at a staggering rate and 12.5 million legal workers in America now out of work, we cannot waste an opportunity to help make sure that any available jobs are reserved for those legal workers.”

“The Department’s recent decision to repeal the ‘no-match’ rule, which helps employers identify individuals who may be working illegally, will also be detrimental to the ability of U.S. citizens and legal workers to find jobs. The decision by the Administration weakens immigration enforcement efforts that preserve jobs for legal workers. No match letters help employers who want to follow the law to identify workers employed in the U.S. illegally. Thus, the Vitter amendment should be retained in the final bill.”

“Finally, we must do everything possible to stop the flow of illegal immigrants over the U.S. border with Mexico. The DeMint amendment restores Congress’ original intent that DHS construct over 700 miles of double-layer pedestrian fencing along our southwestern border. Such a truly effective border barrier will protect jobs for American workers and legal immigrants, lower the fiscal burden on taxpayers and help ensure America’s safety. The DeMint amendment should be included in the final conference report to H.R. 2892.”

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