



TRANSPARENT TIMES

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State Government Committee
Representative Daryl D. Metcalfe, Chairman

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COMMITTEE VOTES TO PROTECT AMERICAN LIVES, LIBERTY AND PROPERTY

With the federal government neglecting to enforce immigration laws, secure our borders, and protect its citizens against an invasion of illegal aliens, state legislatures are forced to address this issue. In 2011 alone, 40 state legislatures have enacted 162 immigration-related laws, according to the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL). This statistic clearly demonstrates that the illegal alien invasion is a real problem in our great nation and it is not confined to one specific geographic area of the United States.

Illegal aliens come to Pennsylvania for three main incentives: stolen jobs, stolen benefits and stolen citizenship. In fact, the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) estimates that there are 140,000 illegal aliens currently residing in Pennsylvania, costing state taxpayers approximately \$1.4 billion yearly.

To address these issues, the House State Government Committee has taken action to turn off the economic faucets that attract illegal aliens to Pennsylvania by passing the following legislation from the National Security Begins at Home package:

- HB 439 (Mustio): Allows the Department of State to revoke the professional licenses of individuals and certain businesses if they knowingly hire an illegal alien.
- HB 798 (Creighton): Requires police officers to inquire into the citizenship and immigration status of all persons arrested for a felony, misdemeanor or summary offense and include this information on criminal history records.
- HB 856 (Kauffman): Provides criminal penalties for individuals who traffic illegal aliens for financial gain.

- HB 865 (Knowles): Holds sanctuary municipalities financially liable for damages caused by the criminal activities of illegal aliens residing in their municipality. A sanctuary municipality is a municipality that prohibits law enforcement from cooperating with federal immigration officials and gives state and local benefits to illegal aliens.
- SB 637 (Ward): Requires public works projects to be awarded only to contractors that verify the work eligibility of their employees through the federal E-Verify system, which is a free online federal program that allows employers to electronically verify an employee's eligibility to work in the United States.

Each and every illegal alien's first step across our border is a criminal violation of our nation's immigration laws. Article 4, Section 4 of the United States Constitution clearly states that our government "shall guarantee to every state in this Union a Republican form of government and shall protect each of them against invasion."

The above-mentioned legislation is now awaiting approval by the full House of Representatives. With recent budget deficits and an 8.3% state unemployment rate, Pennsylvania cannot afford to sustain the fiscal and economic impacts of the illegal alien invasion. Final passage of legislation from the National Security Begins at Home package will result in self-deportation by illegal aliens, as is occurring in several other states that have taken similar legislative action, including Arizona, Georgia and Alabama.

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