



2016 Congressional Candidate Survey on Immigration Issues


I attest that my answers accurately represent my position on the issues addressed in this survey and understand that my responses will be made public on the NumbersUSA Candidate Surveys website.

Surveys are ONLY for official candidates.

CAMPAIGN INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

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DATE Feb 8, 2016

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** This survey should ONLY be completed by the candidate.*

Immigration Positions Favored by NumbersUSA

NumbersUSA supports the recommendations of the bipartisan U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform (appointed by the Senate and House and chaired by Barbara Jordan) that called for immigration reductions to protect vulnerable American workers and their families.

NumbersUSA believes any kind of amnesty (reward-of-residency) for illegal aliens encourages a lot more illegal immigration. Many small enforcement efforts have proven that illegal aliens will buy their own bus and plane tickets back home if they cannot find a job, cannot receive major public services and cannot move freely without fear of a random arrest. Requiring that all employers use the E-Verify system of workplace verification, fully funding the entry/exit system to go after visa overstays, and full federal cooperation with local governments attempting to push illegal aliens out would achieve successful Attrition Through Enforcement.

With nearly 20 million American workers who want a full-time job unable to find one and with immigration-driven U.S. population growth destroying approximately 1 million acres of natural habitat and farmland each year while further congesting American communities, NumbersUSA believes Members of Congress should be looking for ways to stop illegal immigration and to greatly reduce the current flow of more than 1 million legal immigrant workers and their children into the United States each year.

The Census Bureau states that U.S. communities – which had 203 million people in 1970 and more than 310 million today – will have to handle a half-BILLION people after mid-century, at present rates of immigration. Nearly all the growth will be the result of post-1970 immigration. NumbersUSA opposes the federal government forcing that kind of congestion and infrastructure over- load on local communities and the American people.

Those are our opinions. We will display your opinions fairly and accurately on our website. Please send us your opinions soon.

1.) Oppose Amnesty? Do you OPPOSE offering the officially estimated 11 million people illegally in the U.S. a path to U.S. citizenship and/or long-term work permits (whether through a blanket amnesty or an "earned legalization" or other form)?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: There needs to be a comprehensive and fair system for dealing with those in this country illegally. I believe that there should be a path to citizenship for some of these people, particularly those who were brought here as children, and a rational system to allow others to obtain permanent residency status. Attempting to round up millions of undocumented people and forcibly deporting them would make this nation look like a police state.

2.) Support Attrition Through Enforcement? Do you support Attrition Through Enforcement (denying public benefits, turning off the jobs magnet and enforcing existing laws) as the primary way to deal with the existing illegal population, causing illegal aliens to self-repatriate back to their home countries over time?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: According to many recent news reports, the number of people in this country illegally has decreased to roughly 10 million. Those numbers reflect economic trends as much as restrictions on benefits. I do support tightening the restrictions on hiring illegal immigrants, as noted in the following question.

3.) Support Mandatory E-Verify? Should jobs held by illegal aliens be opened up for unemployed Americans and legal immigrants already here by (a) requiring all employers to use the federal automated, rapid-response internet system (E-Verify) to screen out illegal foreign workers, and (b) by setting up systems to identify and fire existing employees who used fraudulent and stolen identities to obtain jobs?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: I believe that employers should, where appropriate, be punished for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants.

4.) Support Local Enforcement? Should the federal government be required to cooperate with local officials, including picking up all illegal aliens detained locally and training law enforcement agencies waiting in line for the 287(g) and other programs designed for local governments to assist federal immigration enforcement?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: I believe that the federal government should cooperate more with local law enforcement agencies, but I do not believe that local law enforcement agencies should be allowed to essentially enforce immigration laws. The concern is that some localities will be overzealous.

5.) Oppose Sanctuary Policies & Other Incentives? Should Congress reduce funding to state and local governments that adopt sanctuary policies, in-state tuition, and/or other policies that give incentives to illegal aliens?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: I believe that in our system of government, state and local governments can, within Constitutional limits, adopt those policies and programs that they believe best serve their constituents. That is a system known as Federalism.

6.) Support Completion of US-VISIT? Should Congress fully fund the completion of the biometric entry/exit system at all borders and points of entry in which every non-citizen entering and leaving the U.S. is logged into a database which would notify law enforcement, businesses and others when a foreign tourist, student, worker or other fails to leave on-time? *(US-VISIT was approved by Congress in 1996, has never been sufficiently funded and is largely incomplete.)

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments:

7.) Support Border Security? Should Congress fund and provide oversight for the full implementation of border security measures already signed into law?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments:

8.) Oppose Birthright Citizenship? Should Congress move the U.S. in line with most other nations and stop the policy of giving automatic citizenship at birth to children when both parents are illegal aliens, tourists, or other visitors?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: The provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment are clear, anyone born in the United States is a citizen. I do not support amending the Constitution to remove this provision.

9.) Oppose Chain Migration? Should Congress implement the bipartisan, national Jordan Commission recommendation to limit family-based immigration to the nuclear family of spouse and minor children, thus eliminating the "chain migration" categories of extended family that are the key reason immigration has quadrupled since the 1960s?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: This seems like a reasonable restriction.

10.) Oppose Visa Lottery? Should Congress stop using a lottery to give away permanent green cards to 50,000 randomly chosen foreign citizens each year (an elimination suggested by the Jordan Commission)?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments:

11.) Oppose Unnecessary Worker Importation? Should Congress institute safeguards that will prevent importation of foreign workers (particularly on permanent visas) if their presence would threaten the jobs or depress the wages of American workers?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments: I support the H1 visa program, but only where there are no US workers qualified for the job.

12.) Support a Reduction in Total Immigration? Until 1976, U.S. immigration tradition was an average of around 250,000 a year; since new legislation in 1990, it has averaged 1,000,000 a year. More than 42 million foreign-born now live and work in the U.S. At current rates, immigration will add more than 100 million additional people to the U.S. population by 2060. This government-forced rapid population expansion will require huge increases in energy and in governments expenditures for roads, bridges, sewage treatment, schools, and other infrastructure and services. Polling finds that most Americans in every region of the country believe this immigration-driven population growth with harm their quality of life. Do you favor reducing overall immigration numbers toward the traditional levels?

YES

NO

NOT TAKING A POSITION

Comments:

General Comments on Immigration

By virtually every measure, immigration is a net positive for a nation. It is far better to be a nation where people seek to enter than a nation where people yearn to flee. Immigrants both legal and illegal are leaving their countries of origin because those countries either have a repressive political system or a failing economy.

Population growth is an important component of economic growth in a nation. Japan is a telling example. Japan has some of the harshest immigration laws in the world. It has an aging population and a declining birth rate, and a stagnant economy.

While some immigrants may bring social and economic problems, the vast majority are hard working and seek only a better life. The United States is a nation of immigrants. It has benefited throughout our history from the talents and hard work of those immigrants, and it is still benefiting.

That does not mean that we should have open borders and a completely unorganized or unplanned immigration system. I believe that we need to protect our borders, and that our immigration system should favor the skilled over the unskilled.