



FAIR 2012 Election Report

PREPARED BY FAIR'S GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT



CONTENTS

- 1 Introduction and Analysis
- 7 Presidential Candidates
- 13 Vice Presidential Candidates
- 17 U.S. Senate Candidates
- 45 U.S. House of Representatives Candidates

Immigration and the 2012 Elections

INTRODUCTION

The results of the 2012 election, and the re-election of President Obama in particular, have led numerous lawmakers and pundits to proclaim that it was the candidates' support for amnesty legislation that secured their victories. Indeed, immigration appeared as a regular campaign topic in the 2012 election, maintaining its role as an important issue for voters. Most candidates included position statements on immigration on their campaign websites, and questions regarding a candidate's position on areas such as amnesty or the DREAM Act were frequently asked during debates. However, as FAIR's Election Report shows, embracing an amnesty agenda was not the deciding factor.

Of all the issues facing Americans, the economy was the number one issue on voters' minds. According to an *Associated Press* exit poll, 59% of voters identified the economy as their top issue ([Associated Press](#), Nov. 7, 2012) Those who felt the economy is improving (four out of 10 voters) tended to vote for President Obama, while those who felt the economy is worsening (three out of 10 voters) tended to vote for Governor Romney. (*Id.*) Moreover, most voters (about 75%) perceived President Obama's policies would be more likely to help the middle class and poor. In contrast, 53% said Romney's policies would favor the rich, and only 34% thought his policies would do more for the middle-class. (*Id.*)

Indeed, President Obama, and Democrats in general, fared better among several demographics. Women, in particular, helped President Obama win re-election, voting 55% in favor of the President and only 44% in favor of Governor Romney. In addition, about 93% of African Americans and about 71% of Hispanics voted for the President. (*Id.*)

Not surprisingly, amnesty advocates are now using these numbers to demand that Congress pass amnesty legislation for the roughly 12 million illegal aliens in the United States. They claim that as Hispanics "won the election" for President Obama and Senate Democrats, they now deserve to be rewarded. But more importantly, they claim that it was the issue of immigration that caused Hispanics to vote for Democrats instead of Republicans.

However, several opinion polls conducted before the election reveal that the economy and healthcare—not immigration—were the dominant issues on the minds of Hispanics who voted in the 2012 election. In fact, multiple polling firms reported that *likely and registered Hispanic voters listed immigration as only the fifth most important issue* to them. According to a *USA Today/Gallup* poll released in June, only 12% of registered Hispanic voters stated that immigration policy was the issue most important to them, taking a backseat to "healthcare" (21%), "unemployment" (19%), "economic growth" (17%), and "the gap between the rich and the poor" (16%). (*USA Today/Gallup Poll*, June 25, 2012)

In September, Fox News Latino released a poll of likely Hispanic voters, of which only six percent claimed that immigration was the most important issue to them. In that poll, 48% indicated the "economy" was their number one voting issue, followed by "healthcare" (14%), "education" (11%), and "social issues" (8%). (*Fox News Latino Poll*, Sept. 18, 2012)

And in October, the Pew Hispanic Center released a poll indicating that 34% of registered Hispanic voters considered immigration to be "an extremely important" issue to them. While this percentage

appears greater than the *USA Today*/Gallup and Fox News Latino poll findings, immigration still ranked number five, behind the issues of “education” (55%), “jobs and the economy” (54%), “healthcare” (50%), and the “federal budget deficit” (36%). (Pew Hispanic Center [Poll](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

An examination of key races in the 2012 election also demonstrates that despite the outcome of the Presidential race, it was not candidates’ support for amnesty that led to victory. In our 2012 Election Report, we first examine the Presidential race (including the Vice Presidential running mates) and collected public statements each had made on a wide spectrum of immigration issues, both recently and over the course of several years where applicable. Next, we took a sample of Senate and House races that were designated competitive by the *Cook Political Report* (primarily ones that were either deemed toss-up, lean Democrat, or lean Republican as of Oct. 4 and Oct. 25, respectively), and collected public statements from those candidates on a wide variety of immigration issues. Following the elections, we went back and looked at the positions of the winning and losing candidates. FAIR found that support for amnesty was not the determining factor in the 2012 elections.

Exit polling echoes these findings. A Breitbart News/Judicial Watch Election Night poll found 61% of voters favored Arizona-style immigration enforcement laws. ([Breitbart News](#), Nov. 8, 2012) The polls also show a nation divided when it comes to President Obama’s administrative amnesty, which grants illegal aliens under the age of 31 deferred action and work authorization for two years. On Election Day, about 40% of voters supported this policy while 37% opposed it. (*Id.*)

Campaigning primarily on the economy, most candidates limited their discussion of immigration to their Party’s standard talking points on amnesty, immigration enforcement, and border security. For example, candidates either appeared adamantly opposed to amnesty, or supported what they denied was an amnesty, but claimed was rather a path to legal status by getting to the end of the line and paying a fine. Below is a more in-depth analysis of some of the key races FAIR analyzed, followed by a record of position statements made by the candidates whose races we evaluated.

PRESIDENCY

President Obama narrowly won reelection in what was a neck-and-neck race up until Election Day. While President Obama won the Electoral College 332 to 206 (270 votes are necessary), the President won just 51% of the popular vote (62,088,847) compared to Governor Romney’s 48% (58,783,137). In addition, the *Associated Press* reported that 10 million fewer people turned out to vote in the 2012 elections than in 2008, demonstrating a lack of enthusiasm for either presidential candidate and dispelling the notion that President Obama’s victory was a mandate for his Administration’s policies, especially an amnesty. ([Associated Press](#), Nov. 7, 2012)

Key to the President’s victory was voter turnout, which was six percent higher for Democrats than Republicans. This suggests that Democrats were more successful at organizing their grassroots supporters and did a better job of energizing the Party’s base—not necessarily that more Americans agreed with the Democrats’ pro-amnesty agenda. ([Breitbart News](#), Nov. 8, 2012)

When it comes to the enforcement of immigration laws, President Obama and Governor Romney indeed offered a clear choice to the American people. In an interview with the *Des Moines Register* President Obama, an ardent amnesty supporter, promised he would move amnesty legislation in the first year of a second term. (*Des Moines Register* Interview [Transcript](#), Oct. 24, 2012) He told them,

“[One] thing I’m confident we’ll get done next year is immigration reform.” (*Id.*) Governor Romney, on the other hand, opposed amnesty. His campaign website read: “Mitt Romney opposes amnesty because he believes that it acts as a magnet encouraging illegal immigration. The last amnesty law passed in 1986 granted legal status to 2.7 million illegal immigrants. In the decades since, the illegal immigrant population has quadrupled. Mitt believes that an amnesty should not be permitted to happen again.”

Importantly, however, there were areas of agreement between President Obama’s and Governor Romney’s positions on immigration. Both, for example, supported versions of the DREAM Act. President Obama has consistently voiced his support for such proposals over the years, whereas Governor Romney’s position has shifted over time to support a limited version of the legislation. Although Governor Romney stated during the primaries that he would veto the DREAM Act, he eventually pledged his support for a version of the DREAM Act that allows a pathway to citizenship for illegal alien minors who serve in the military, even though neither minors nor illegal aliens may serve in the military.

Both President Obama and Governor Romney also supported reforms to America’s legal immigration system. Each on their campaign website and in various public appearances discussed ways in which to decrease visa processing times, telling voters they wanted to streamline the legal immigration system. In particular, they both supported increasing green cards for foreign graduates of U.S. universities.

U.S. SENATE

At the end of Election Day 2012, Democrats maintained control of the Senate, presumably leaving its control in the hands of pro-amnesty Majority Leader Harry Reid. Prior to the elections, Democrats controlled the Senate 53 to 47, including two Independent Members who caucused with the Party. Following the elections, Democrats hold a 54 to 45 majority. Republicans lost a net of two seats when Elizabeth Warren defeated incumbent Senator Scott Brown of Massachusetts, and Independent candidate Angus King won the seat long held by retiring Senator Olympia Snowe of Maine (King has yet to say with which Party he plans to caucus). Blue Dog Democrat Rep. Joe Donnelly picked up the seat long held by Republican Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, but this was offset by Republican Deb Fischer’s win over Bob Kerrey for retiring Senator Ben Nelson’s seat of Nebraska.

Despite the open borders lobby’s assertion that support for amnesty was the driving force behind the election, the results of FAIR’s Election Report disprove those claims. Candidates supporting amnesty over enforcement won just roughly half of the races FAIR analyzed.

Several Senate races are particularly noteworthy. In Nevada, although the State’s electoral votes went to President Obama, Nevadans re-elected Republican Senator Dean Heller, an immigration enforcement advocate, rejecting pro-amnesty Congresswoman Shelley Berkley. While the race was close, Senator Heller won 46% to 45%, edging Rep. Berkley by 12,134 votes. Appointed to the Senate during the 112th Congress, Heller was on record voicing his opposition to amnesty and voted against the DREAM Act when it came up in the House in December 2010. To the contrary, Rep. Berkley openly applauded President Obama for his administrative amnesty initiatives and voted in favor of the 2010 DREAM Act.

The opposite scenario occurred in Indiana, where the State's electoral votes went to Governor Romney, but Indianans chose Democratic Rep. Joe Donnelly to be its next U.S. Senator. Contrary to this being a victory for amnesty advocates, Rep. Donnelly has consistently supported pro-enforcement immigration policies. And, similar to Sen. Heller, Rep. Donnelly also voted against the DREAM Act in 2010. He made his pro-enforcement immigration positions clear on his campaign website, stating, "I will oppose any proposal that amounts to amnesty...I will continue to work hard to ensure that American citizenship is reserved for those who play by the rules." Interestingly, his opponent, Republican Richard Mourdock, also opposed amnesty and the DREAM Act. Nonetheless, Rep. Donnelly's strong immigration record helped propel him to a victory, winning the race 50% to 44%, despite Governor Romney's 54% to 44% victory over the State.

In Texas, strong immigration enforcement candidate Republican Ted Cruz won the Texas Senate seat being vacated by retiring Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. His tough immigration stance easily helped him win the GOP stronghold 57% to 40% against his Democrat challenger, Paul Sadler. Senator-elect Cruz frequently criticized President Obama's administrative amnesty initiative, and strongly opposed amnesty, sanctuary cities and benefits for illegal aliens, while supporting increasing the number of border patrol agents and completing the border fence. In contrast, his opponent stated the DREAM Act should have been enacted "a long time ago," and compared the border fence to the "Berlin Wall."

In Arizona, former amnesty supporter turned enforcement proponent Republican Rep. Jeff Flake won his race against Democrat Richard Carmona. The dynamics of this race were particularly interesting because during his twelve years in the U.S. House of Representatives, Flake was an ardent supporter of "comprehensive immigration reform." However, he changed his position in favor of immigration enforcement when he began his Senate campaign. He aptly stated on his campaign website, "In the past I have supported a broad approach to immigration reform—increased border security coupled with a temporary worker program. I no longer do." Rep. Flake ultimately won Arizona's Senate seat by a margin of 50 to 45 percent.

To be sure, several notable amnesty supporters also won Senate races this election cycle. Former Democratic National Committee Chairman and former Virginia Governor Tim Kaine won his race for Virginia Senate against former Senator and also former Governor George Allen. As an amnesty supporter, Kaine stated that illegal aliens should be legalized after they "admit to a violation of immigration laws and pay an appropriate penalty." George Allen, on the other hand, spoke out against President Obama's administrative amnesty program for illegal alien minors and opposed amnesty, including the DREAM Act. Kaine won the State of Virginia by six percentage points.

An amnesty supporter also won the Senate seat in Massachusetts. There, Harvard Professor and former Special Assistant to the President Elizabeth Warren defeated incumbent Senator Scott Brown in one of the country's most closely watched Senate races. Brown opposed both amnesty and benefits for illegal aliens, whereas Warren openly applauded President Obama for his backdoor amnesty initiatives and voiced her support for amnesty. While amnesty advocates may claim that support for amnesty was key to a Warren victory, the difference in support for President Obama and Elizabeth Warren undermines that argument. President Obama won the State 61% to 38%, while Warren won only 54% of the vote.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Similar to the Senate races, amnesty supporters won just roughly half of the races for the U.S. House of Representatives FAIR analyzed. Importantly, Republicans maintained control of the Chamber, preserving the status quo in the U.S. Congress and providing a check upon President Obama and Senate Democrats' pro-amnesty agenda. Overall, Republicans lost six seats, decreasing their majority from a margin of 240-190 (including five vacant seats) to 234-194. At the time of printing, seven races remained undecided, including four analyzed in this report.

Several House races are worth noting. In Iowa, Vice-Chair of the House Subcommittee on Immigration Policy and Enforcement, Republican Congressman Steve King, won a hard-fought campaign against his challenger former Iowa First Lady and amnesty supporter Christie Vilsack. Rep. King has long been a true immigration reformer, forcefully opposing amnesty, the DREAM Act, birthright citizenship, and benefits for illegal aliens. Although pollsters considered the race to be a toss-up, King easily held onto his House seat, winning by well over 30,000 votes (53% to 45%).

In Nevada, while President Obama carried the State, immigration enforcement supporter Republican Congressman Joe Heck kept his seat. Interestingly, Rep. Heck won 50% to 43%, roughly the same percent by which Governor Romney lost the State (46% to 52%). Rep. Heck's strong enforcement record includes support for state and local immigration enforcement through the 287(g) program, mandatory E-Verify, and opposition to amnesty and the DREAM Act.

Nonetheless, amnesty supporters won in several races across the country. For example, freshman Representative Francisco "Quico" Canseco of Texas, who declared on his website that amnesty is "not an option," lost his seat to Democratic challenger Pete Gallego by 13,000 votes. In contrast, Gallego praised President Obama's backdoor amnesty program for illegal alien minors on his campaign website. In addition, pro-amnesty Democrat Rick Nolan also defeated true immigration reformer Minnesota Rep. Chip Cravaack, who opposed amnesty and supported state and local immigration enforcement. Cravaack lost 46% to 54%, with President Obama carrying the State by roughly the same.

CONCLUSION

Despite the amnesty lobby's claim that the outcome of the 2012 elections was based on candidates' support for amnesty legislation, the facts do not support such an analysis. Exit polls show that voters' primary concerns were the economy, jobs, and healthcare. And based on those concerns, voters chose to elect Democrats in certain races. Of critical importance, Hispanic voters also rated the economy as their top concern, and like other Americans, voted for Democrats in certain key races. Finally, an examination of the "toss-up" races shows that pro-enforcement candidates won roughly as many seats as pro-amnesty candidates. In fact, in several important races, enforcement candidates won in states carried by the President.

Remarkably, despite the focus on the economy this election cycle, candidates refused to discuss the consequences that mass legal and illegal immigration has on the domestic labor market. Although 14.6% of the U.S. population—or 23 million people—are unemployed or looking for full-time work, the U.S. continues to admit roughly one million green card holders and 800,000 guest workers annually through an immigration system that runs on auto-pilot. In addition, roughly 400,000 – 500,000 illegal

aliens enter the U.S. each year, generally to search for work. Yet candidates did not make the connection between our growing immigration population and the fact that Americans (including naturalized citizens) are struggling to find full-time work. (See Bureau of Labor Statistics Economic [News Release](#), Nov. 2, 2012; see also U.S. Dept. of State FY 2011 Annual [Report](#), DHS 2010 [Fact Sheet](#), and Pew Hispanic Center [Report](#), Feb. 1, 2011) The reality of immigration, however, will soon be staring lawmakers in the face as they quickly realize that they cannot fulfill their campaign promises to put Americans back to work without addressing the issue.



• **Mitt Romney (R)**

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“The people who have received the special visa that the president has put in place, which is a two-year visa, should expect that the visa would continue to be valid. I'm not going to take something that they've purchased. Before those visas have expired we will have the full immigration reform plan that I've proposed.” ([Denver Post](#), Oct. 2, 2012)

“If [President Obama] really wanted to make a solution that dealt with these kids or with the illegal immigration in America, then this is something he would have taken up in his first three and a half years, not in his last few months.” ([CBS News, Face the Nation Interview](#), Jun. 17, 2012)

Amnesty

“Mitt Romney opposes amnesty because he believes that it acts as a magnet encouraging illegal immigration. The last amnesty law passed in 1986 granted legal status to 2.7 million illegal immigrants. In the decades since, the illegal immigrant population has quadrupled. Mitt believes that an amnesty should not be permitted to happen again. Illegal immigrants who apply for legal status should not be given any advantage over those who are following the law and waiting their turn. Mitt absolutely opposes any policy that would allow illegal immigrants to ‘cut in line.’” (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

“[T]he 12 million or so that are here illegally should be able to sign up for permanent residency or citizenship, but they should not be able to be given a special pathway, a special guarantee that all of them get to stay here for the rest of their lives merely by virtue of having come here illegally...In my view they should have a set period during which period they sign-up for application for permanent residency or for citizenship, but there's a set period whereupon they should return home and if they've been approved for citizenship or for permanent residency, why that would be a different matter. But for the great majority they'll be going home.” (Meet the Press, [YouTube](#), Dec. 16, 2007)

“An amnesty program is what, which is all the illegal immigrants who are here are now citizens, and walk up and get your citizenship. What [President George W. Bush] has proposed, and what Senator McCain and Cornyn have proposed are quite different than that. They require people signing up for a, well, registering and receiving, if you will, a number, a registration number, then working here for six years and paying taxes- not taking benefits...and then at the end of that period, registering to become a citizen, or applying to become a citizen and paying a fee... and I think that those are reasonable proposals.” (Mitt Romney Nov. 30, 2005 Interview with the *Boston Globe* as recorded on Meet the Press Dec. 16, 2007, [YouTube](#))

Arizona's SB 1070

"[T]he right course for America is to drop these lawsuits against Arizona and other states that are trying to do the job Barack Obama isn't doing." (Republican Presidential Candidates [Debate](#), Feb. 22, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

"Governor Romney opposes all 'magnets' that entice illegal immigrants to come to our country. As governor, he vetoed in-state tuition benefits for illegal immigrants and opposed driver's licenses for illegal immigrants." (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

Border Security

"Mitt Romney will complete a high-tech fence to enhance border security." (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

"Governor Romney will ensure that we have the officers on the ground we need to gain control of the border." (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

"A Romney Administration will work to develop an efficient, effective system of exit verification to ensure people do not overstay their visas." (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

DREAM Act

"Mitt Romney believes that young illegal immigrants who were brought to the United States as children should have the chance to become permanent residents, and eventually citizens, by serving honorably in the United States military." (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

"The kids of those that came here illegally, those kids, I think, should have a pathway to become permanent residents of the United States and military service, for instance, is *one way* they would have that kind of pathway to become a permanent resident." (*ABC News Presidential [Debate](#)*, Oct. 16, 2012)(emphasis added)

"The question is if I were elected and Congress were to pass the DREAM Act would I veto it—and the answer is yes. I'm delighted with the idea that people who come to this country and wish to serve in the military can be given a path to become permanent residents in this country. Those who serve in our military who fulfill those requirements, I respect and acknowledge that path." (Campaign Speech, [YouTube](#), Jan. 1, 2012)

Employment Verification

"I think you see a model in Arizona. They passed a law here that says—that says that people who come here and try and find work, that the employer is required to look them up on E-Verify. This E-Verify system allows employers in Arizona to know who's here legally and who's not here legally. And as a result of E-Verify being put in place, the number of people in Arizona that are here illegally

has dropped by some 14 percent, where the national average has only gone down 7 percent.” (Republican Presidential Candidates [Debate](#), Feb. 22, 2012)

“[F]or those who come into the country legally, they would be given an identification card that points out they're able to work here. And then you have an E-Verify system that's effective and efficient so that employers can determine who is legally here and if employers hire someone without a card, or without checking to see if it's been counterfeited, then those employers would be severely sanctioned.” (Republican Presidential Candidates [Debate](#), Jan. 26, 2012)

“Once you put in place an employment verification system...I'd say to anybody who's coming here legally, they get a card with their name, biometric information, and number and their work status and once you have those cards in place, the only ones who can get them are the ones who are here legally. You then say to employers, if you want to hire someone that's not a U.S. citizen with a valid Social Security Number, you ask for the card. You then verify it on the computer and you can hire them if it's a valid card and if they have a card. If they don't have a card and you hire them anyway, then you're going to be subject to the same kind of sanctions you'd be subject to for not paying your taxes and that's typically fines, very substantial fines...and potentially even worse if they're repeat offenders.” (Meet the Press, [YouTube](#), Dec. 16, 2007)

Guest Workers

“As president, Mitt Romney will make the system for bringing in temporary agricultural workers and other seasonal workers functional for both employers and immigrants. We should get rid of unnecessary requirements that delay issuance of a visa, and we should speed the processing of applications.” (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

“Mitt Romney will work with Congress, states, and employers to properly set the cap on non-agricultural temporary worker visas. Many tourist-oriented businesses in the United States rely on these workers and would have to cut back or cease operations if there are not enough visas.” (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“To ensure that America continues to lead the world in innovation and economic dynamism, a Romney administration would press for an immigration policy designed to maximize America's economic potential. Foreign-born residents with advanced degrees start companies, create jobs, and drive innovation at a high rate. While lawful immigrants comprise about 8 percent of the population, immigrants start 16 percent of our top-performing, high-technology companies, hold the position of CEO or lead engineer in 25 percent of high-tech firms, and produce over 25 percent of all patent applications filed from the United States.

- The United States is projected to face a shortage of 230,000 science and technology workers by 2018. At the same time, we have set the caps on high-skill visas so low that, for some countries, an entire year's quota has been filled in an hour. Mitt Romney will ask Congress to raise the caps on visas for highly skilled immigrants.

- Many country caps—or limits on immigrants from specific countries—are so low, that America is losing some of the best and brightest to our international competitors. Mitt Romney will work with Congress to raise the country caps.
- Every foreign student who obtains an advanced degree in math, science, or engineering at a U.S. university should be granted permanent residency.”
- ([Mitt Romney](#) for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

“Mitt Romney will work with Congress to give legal permanent residents the same priority as citizens when applying to bring husbands, wives, and minor children to the United States.” (Mitt Romney for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

“We welcome legal immigrants into this country. I want our legal system to work better. I want it to be streamlined. I want it to be clearer. I don't think you have to—shouldn't have to hire a lawyer to figure out how to get into this country legally. I also think that we should give visas to people—green cards, rather, to people who graduate with skills that we need. People around the world with accredited degrees in science and math get a green card stapled to their diploma, come to the U.S. of A. We should make sure our legal system works.” (ABC News Presidential [Debate](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

• **Barack Obama (D)** WINNER ---

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“Using its authority under existing law, the Obama administration took action to lift the shadow of deportation from young people who came to the United States as children through no fault of their own, so they can pursue their education or apply for work authorization.” (Barack Obama for President Campaign [Website](#), Nov. 1, 2012)

“[I]f we're going to go after folks who are here illegally, we should do it smartly and go after folks who are criminals, gang bangers, people who are hurting the community, not after students, not after folks who are here just because they're trying to figure out how to feed their families. And that's what we've done. And what I've also said is for young people who come here, brought here often times by their parents. Had gone to school here, pledged allegiance to the flag. Think of this as their country. Understand themselves as Americans in every way except having papers. And we should make sure that we give them a pathway to citizenship. *And that's what I've done administratively.*” (ABC News Presidential [Debate](#), Oct. 16, 2012)(emphasis added)

“[I]t makes no sense to expel talented young people who for all intents and purposes are Americans—they've been raised as Americans, understand themselves to be part of this country—to expel these young people who want to staff our labs or start new businesses or defend our country simply because of the actions of their parents, or because of the inaction of politicians. In the absence of any immigration action from Congress to fix our broken immigration system, what

we've tried to do is focus our immigration enforcement resources in the right places...We focused and used discretion about whom to prosecute, focusing on criminals who endanger our communities rather than students who are earning their education. And today deportation of criminals is up 80 percent. We've improved on that discretion carefully and thoughtfully. Well, today we're improving it again. Effective immediately, the Department of Homeland Security is taking steps to lift the shadow of deportation from these young people. Over the next few months eligible individuals who do not present a risk to national security or public safety will be able to request temporary relief from deportation proceedings and apply for work authorization. Now, let's be clear: This is not amnesty. This is not immunity. This is not a path to citizenship. It's not a permanent fix. This is a temporary stop-gap measure that lets us focus our resources wisely while giving a degree of relief and hope to talented, driven, patriotic young people. It is—it is the right thing to do." (Barack Obama [Speech](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

"[T]hose who are here illegally, they have a responsibility as well. So they broke the law, and that means they've got to pay their taxes, they've got to pay a fine, they've got to learn English. And they've got to undergo background checks and a lengthy process before they get in line for legalization. That's not too much to ask." (Barack Obama [Remarks](#), El Paso, TX, May 10, 2011)

"I believe that we can take the undocumented workers, the illegal aliens who are here, get them out of the shadows, make sure that they are subject to a stiff penalty, make sure that they're learning English, make sure that they go to the back of the line so they're not getting an advantage over people who came here legally...That's what I intend to do as president of the United States." (Democratic Presidential Candidates [Debate](#), Nov. 15, 2007)

Arizona's SB 1070

"I am pleased that the Supreme Court has struck down key provisions of Arizona's immigration law. What this decision makes unmistakably clear is that Congress must act on comprehensive immigration reform. A patchwork of state laws is not a solution to our broken immigration system – it's part of the problem. At the same time, I remain concerned about the practical impact of the remaining provision of the Arizona law that requires local law enforcement officials to check the immigration status of anyone they even suspect to be here illegally...Going forward, we must ensure that Arizona law enforcement officials do not enforce this law in a manner that undermines the civil rights of Americans...." (White House [Press Release](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

"I've instructed members of my administration to closely monitor the situation and examine the civil rights and other implications of this legislation. But if we continue to fail to act at a federal level, we will continue to see misguided efforts opening up around the country." (Barack Obama [Speech](#), Apr. 23, 2010)

Border Security

"The most significant step we can now take to secure the borders is to fix the system as a whole so that fewer people have the incentive to enter illegally in search of work in the first place. This would allow agents to focus on the worst threats on both of our—both sides of our borders, from drug

traffickers to those who would come here to commit acts of violence or terror. That's where our focus should be." (Barack Obama [Remarks](#), El Paso, TX, May 10, 2011)

DREAM Act

"I have never wavered in my support of comprehensive immigration reform. We did put forward a DREAM Act that was passed in the House, got the overwhelming majority of support from Democrats in the Senate, and was blocked by the Republican Party. We now are confronted with a choice between two candidates in which the candidate sitting here with you today is committed to comprehensive immigration reform, is committed to the DREAM Act, has taken administrative actions to prevent young people from being deported." (Barack Obama [Remarks](#) at Univision Town Hall, Sept. 20, 2012)

"[W]e should stop punishing innocent young people for the actions of their parents. We should stop denying them the chance to earn an education or serve in the military. And that's why we need to pass the DREAM Act...These are kids who grew up in this country. They love this country. They know no other place to call home. The idea that we'd punish them is cruel. It makes no sense. We're a better nation than that. So we're going to keep fighting for the DREAM Act. We're going to keep up the fight for reform." (Barack Obama [Remarks](#), El Paso, TX, May 10, 2011)

Employment Verification

"E-Verify can be an important enforcement tool if it's not riddled with errors, if U.S. citizens are protected – because what I don't want is a situation in which employers are forced to set up a system that they can't be certain works. And we don't want to expose employers to the risk where they end up rejecting a qualified candidate for a job because the list says that that person is an illegal immigrant, and it turns out that the person isn't an illegal immigrant....That wouldn't be fair for the employee and would probably get the employer in trouble as well." ([FOX News Latino](#), Jun. 30, 2011)

"Right now, an employer has more of a chance of getting hit by lightning than be prosecuted for hiring an undocumented worker. That has to change. They have to be held accountable." (Democratic Presidential Candidates [Debate](#), Nov. 15, 2007)

Legal Immigration

"We should make it easier for the best and the brightest to not only stay here, but also to start businesses and create jobs here....We need to provide our farms a legal way to hire workers that they rely on, and a path for those workers to earn legal status. And our laws should respect families following the rules—reuniting them more quickly instead of splitting them apart. Today, the immigration system not only tolerates those who break the rules, but it punishes folks who follow the rules. While applications—while applicants wait for approval, for example, they're often forbidden from visiting the United States. Even husbands and wives may have to spend years apart. Parents can't see their children. I don't believe the United States of America should be in the business of separating families. That's not right. That's not who we are. We can do better than that." (Barack Obama [Remarks](#), El Paso, TX, May 10, 2011)



• Paul Ryan (R)

Amnesty

“I do not support amnesty for the millions of illegal immigrants already living in the United States. Any reform proposal must require that those who have disregarded the rule of law are not rewarded for their actions. In the end, I hope that with better border security and a more robust and up-to-date employee verification system, we will be able to stem the flow of illegal immigration and restore the rule of law.” (Rep. Paul Ryan Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

“[L]egislation addressing immigration policies should require illegal immigrants seeking a green card or citizenship to leave the United States and reapply for citizenship outside of the U.S., so that they can then re-enter the country legally, thus upholding the rule of law. Proposals like the “Z visa,” which would have allowed an illegal immigrant to stay in America indefinitely through continual renewals, are not an effective way of dealing with the problem. They serve the same purpose as acquiring a green card, without having to leave the country or waiting at the end of the line. In my opinion, this approach amounts to amnesty.” (Rep. Paul Ryan Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

Border Security

“Operational control of our borders should be among the highest priorities of Congress. Every nation has the right to control entry and exit across its border. Porous borders leave us susceptible to the illegal crossing of terrorists, drug lords, and gang members, placing our homeland security in serious jeopardy. Because of the importance of this issue, I have been a vocal proponent in calling upon Congress to make border fence construction a top priority, and will continue working toward enforcement of our nation’s borders.” (Paul Ryan for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

DREAM Act

“While the DREAM Act has been promoted as an alternative to comprehensive reform, and I understand the points that DREAM Act supporters have raised, I believe this legislation attempts to treat a symptom – rather than the root cause – of our current problems. We must first secure the border and stem the flow of illegal immigration, and then work to increase legal immigration through an enforceable guest worker program and by developing a more secure employee verification system. I believe it would be a serious mistake to pursue piecemeal reforms like the DREAM Act without first putting in place these fundamental components of immigration reform.” (Rep. Paul Ryan Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

“I’ve been impressed with Marco Rubio’s leadership on this issue. Marco Rubio was on the cusp of introducing the bipartisan solution to immigration problems. President Obama preempted that with

what many people think is an unconstitutional move and denied the ability to have a bipartisan solution to these legitimate immigration issues that we have to solve.” (FLDemocracy2012.com, Aug. 19, 2012)

Driver’s Licenses for Illegal Aliens/REAL ID Act

“The terrorists who attacked us on 9/11 used driver’s licenses from five different states and took advantage of holes in our system that allowed them to travel easily within our borders. It makes sense to set basic standards for licenses or ID cards that could be accepted for boarding planes. It’s also common sense to update our laws so we aren’t letting potential terrorists or those who aid terrorists operate within our borders.” (Rep. Paul Ryan [Press Release](#), Feb. 10, 2005)

Employment Verification

“In order to allow employers to easily and accurately verify an employee’s legal status in a timely matter, I have introduced the New Employee Verification Act. This bipartisan proposal protects an employee’s information from identity theft while creating a verification tool that is accurate, secure, and immediate. It provides enhanced employer penalties for those who knowingly violate our laws and avoids a “big brother” law enforcement agency building new databases on law-abiding citizens.” (Paul Ryan for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

Guest Workers

“I believe that any reforms to immigration policies should include expanding access to visas for seasonal and temporary labor. Wisconsin, for example, has relied on seasonal labor for agriculture and other industries. Due to a lack of seasonal H-2B visas, some Wisconsin businesses face annual labor shortfalls. Allowing for a streamlined, safe, and efficient visa process will provide businesses with needed workers and relieve pressure on the borders. Additionally, I believe a temporary guest worker program is one component of reform that could help us secure our borders and gain greater control of immigration. By providing a way to legally link employers with immigrant workers, we would relieve pressure on the borders from people who are coming here to seek work. This would allow us more time to pursue the people who mean to do us harm—criminals, terrorists, and drug smugglers.” (Rep. Paul Ryan Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“While fighting illegal immigration, I have sought to fix legal immigration policy. People who are attempting to come to the country legally find that it takes years to process citizenship applications and requires endless paperwork and other requirements. I have supported legislation that would ease the incentives to violate our immigration laws, including the expansion of access to visas for seasonal and temporary labor. Allowing for a streamlined, safe, and efficient visa process will provide Wisconsin businesses with needed workers and relieve pressure on the borders.” (Paul Ryan for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

• **Joe Biden (D)** WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“[R]ight now you got the president and I and a lot of Democrats out there breaking our neck, trying to get a real immigration law that takes million of people out of the shadows. Making sure that DREAMers don't have to go back—in many cases—to countries they never been.” ([Enrique Santos Show](#), Oct. 30, 2012)

“[DACA] lift[ed] the cloud of deportation off a million kids who were brought here, as if they're going to say as two-year-olds, ‘Mom, I don't want to cross that border. Leave me behind, mom’...Now these guys want to send them home? Home? Home? This is home. America is home.” ([Huffington Post](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“President Obama believes that even though these DREAMERS—these kids—didn't choose to come to America—they've chosen to do right by America and we should do right by them.” (Joe Biden [Speech](#) at Democratic National Convention, Sept. 6, 2012)

Amnesty

“Fourteen million illegals—now you tell me how many buses, car loads, planes that are going to go out, round up all these people, spend hundreds of millions of billions of dollars for the whole world watching, while we send these folks back. Rather than, rather than, get a background check on all of them, take out the criminals, get them back, and provide for a means by which we allow earned citizenship over the next decade or so.” (Democratic Presidential Candidates Debate [Transcript](#), June 2, 2007)

Arizona's SB 1070

“I know that's why states like Arizona are so frustrated, our immigration system is broken, but the President and I believe that a state-by-state approach is not the way to fix it. This is a federal responsibility we have not lived up to.” ([azfamily.com](#), May 2, 2010)”

Attrition Through Enforcement

“I don't care what your position is on immigration, but self deportation? I don't know what that is.” ([Greeley Tribune](#), Oct. 21, 2012)

Border Security

“[T]he reason I voted for the [border] fence was that was the only alternative that was there, and I voted for the fence related to drugs. You can—a fence will stop 20 kilos of cocaine coming through that fence. It will not stop someone climbing over it or around it.” (Democratic Presidential Candidates Debate [Transcript](#), June 2, 2007)

DREAM Act

“The president and I are absolutely, positively, foursquare, for the Dream Act. It makes no sense not to educate everyone in this country who is here with a college degree.” ([Las Vegas Sun](#), Jan. 20, 2012)

Guest Workers

“No h1b visa can be granted to an employee to come to a company unless they can prove there is no American to fill the job. What we have had is a real vacuum in the number of computer engineers and high tech personnel to work in particularly silicon valley that's where most of those h1b visas are going that's why we have made it so attractive and I don't understand why republicans have opposed us.” ([KWQC 6 News](#), March 28, 2012)

“Let's get it straight. Americans will do any job if you pay them properly. You know the fact of the matter is that's (sic) doesn't mean we don't need guest workers...but we should base the number of guest workers that are in the statute that we are trying to pass and we tried to pass before comprehensive immigration reform based upon need not an absolute number. And we should require employers to offer those jobs to citizens to see if they want those jobs...We need agricultural workers, we need H1B visas we need what in fact exists as a need not as an artificial number to allow employers to drive down wages.” (Iowa Brown and Black Presidential Forum [Transcript](#), Dec. 1, 2007)



ARIZONA

- JEFF FLAKE (R) WINNER

287(g) Program

On the Obama Administration's rescission of 287(g) agreements in Arizona: "Suspending this program will strip our local authorities of critical tools to deal with illegal immigration. The Obama Administration is effectively broadcasting that unless an illegal immigrant is wanted for a crime, the attention of ICE isn't warranted." (Rep. Jeff Flake Congressional [Website](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

"There is no way to view the President's announcement on immigration without concluding that it was politically motivated. It comes just months before the election and on the heels of the Administration's decision to redefine what 'operational control' means on the southern border (if we aren't achieving it, let's just redefine it). Nice diversion." (Congressman Jeff Flake Facebook Page (courtesy of [KPNX-TV 12 Phoenix](#)) aired Jun. 24, 2012)

"[The] President could have been working with Congress for years here. He's been in office for about three and a half years, and only five months before the election does he come out with this proposal. It's not a long-term solution. There are a lot of people who are working on long-term solutions. Marco Rubio was one. He could have gone to Congress and worked with us here." ([KPNX-TV 12 Phoenix](#), Jun. 24, 2012)

Amnesty

"In the past I have supported a broad approach to immigration reform – increased border security coupled with a temporary worker program. I no longer do." (Jeff Flake for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 19, 2012)(emphasis added)

"By moving ahead with legalization alone, Democrats have little incentive to support increased enforcement and a temporary worker program, and without those components we've not truly addressed the problem." ([Tucson Weekly](#), May 3, 2012)

"When you have nearly five percent of the current work force here is illegal and our economy is doing well with that five percent working, what are we going to do? Are we going to deport five percent of the workforce?" ([Politico](#), Mar. 23, 2011)

“I continue to support comprehensive immigration reform - the country, particularly Arizona, is in desperate need of it. However, legalization measures need to be coupled with increased enforcement and a temporary worker program. By moving ahead with legalization alone, Democrats have little incentive to support increased enforcement and a temporary worker program, and without those components we’ve not truly addressed the problem.” (Jeff Flake Congressional [Website](#), Dec. 8, 2010)(emphasis added)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“It’s troubling to me and to Arizonans that the Obama administration has wasted time and taxpayer money in court, rather than fulfilling its responsibility to secure the border. Arizona will have to continue to wait until we have an administration that will exert the leadership to do what needs to be done to secure the border.” ([Western Free Press](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

“It’s tough to blame states for moving ahead with their own enforcement efforts, when Congress has repeatedly failed to address immigration reform...If Congress again fails to act, you’re going to see more states move ahead with imprudent immigration bills, similar to Arizona’s new law...States like Arizona will take action to enforce immigration laws when the federal government continues its long history of failing to do so.” ([Arizona Daily Star](#), Apr. 29, 2012)

Border Security

“One of the primary functions of the federal government is to provide national security, which includes border security. With a southern border so porous, and increasingly dangerous, the federal government continues to fail in this most basic function...Border security must be addressed before other reforms are tackled. Most importantly, the situation along the border has changed significantly. In years past, groups of illegal aliens crossing the southern border tied to drug or smuggling cartels were the exception to the rule. Today, such ties are the rule. The lawless situation in northern Mexico largely driven by drug cartels is fueling lawlessness north of the border. Such a situation calls for an exclusive focus on border security. Once we’ve secured the border we still face considerable immigration challenges, like the fact that nearly half of the illegal aliens residing in the United States didn’t sneak across the border – they came legally and have overstayed their visas. But we have to focus on border security first.” (Jeff Flake for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 19, 2012)(emphasis added)

“Unless the federal government has operational control, the border is not secured. When the Tucson Sector looks like the Yuma Sector, the Obama Administration can start patting itself on the back. But to abandon operational control as the metric of success now makes me question the seriousness of the Administration’s proposal. We have a plan in Congress that would put the federal government on the path to operational control – The Border Security Enforcement Act.” (Jeff Flake Congressional [Website](#), May 8, 2012)

“The Administration needs to point to more than apprehension statistics when evaluating the security of the border – these statistics don’t mirror the reality faced by border communities every day. The Obama Administration has yet to offer a plan to gain operational control of the border. To draw down National Guard troops without such a plan is a bad decision.” (Rep. Jeff Flake [Press Release](#), Dec. 21, 2011)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“What I support is comprehensive immigration reform. I think [what] the president did was a reasonable step, but it’s pretty late. We should have been much more aggressive in doing this before. I think it’s a step in the right direction but, I want to be clear this is a band-aid on a broken system.” ([Fox News Latino](#), Jun. 27, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“Today’s [Supreme Court] ruling does not help us secure the border, and it does not provide a solution for the 400,000 undocumented people living in Arizona.” ([The New Yorker](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

“I was not a supporter of 1070. As a police officer working in southern Arizona for over a quarter century for the sheriff here, and as a deputy sheriff, there were, most of my colleagues spoke of this. 1070 didn't do anything for us. We have the ability to stop people and ask them to identify themselves. If they can't, we do the appropriate procedures to identify them, and if we're uncertain, we can call the border patrol or ICE. So 1070 really created a burden for us because it really put a barrier between us and our communities who trusted us, and now they saw us as immigration officers. So it didn't add value to policing. In fact, it created problems with community policing.” (Richard Carmona Interview, [YouTube](#), Jan. 28, 2012)

“It [SB 1070] put a barrier between us and our communities who trusted us, and now they saw us as immigration officers. So it didn't add value to policing. In fact, it created problems for community policing.” ([Phoenix NewTimes](#), Jan. 26, 2012)

Border Security

“First and foremost, we need to ensure our borders are safe and secure. We need to overhaul our immigration laws and support a comprehensive approach that is practical, tough and fair. That means securing the border, cracking down on drug and human smuggling, punishing companies who knowingly hire illegal immigrants, and eliminating a nefarious labor market that exploits those living in the shadows of our society.” (Richard Carmona for Senate Campaign [Website](#), May 31, 2012)

DREAM Act

“We should [] pass the DREAM Act that creates a path to legalization for children, who, through no fault of their own, were brought into this country at a young age, have worked hard and are either going to college or have enlisted in the military.” (Richard Carmona for Senate Campaign [Website](#), May 31, 2012)

“I’m so passionate about giving these kids a chance. It’s the right thing to do. They’re here through no fault of their own. They were brought by adults, and now we’re going to penalize them. It doesn’t make sense.” ([The Washington Post](#), Apr. 26, 2012)

“My sense is, the DREAM Act, a path to citizenship, that Senator Kennedy, President Bush advocated, is the way to go.” (U.S. Senate Candidate Richard Carmona Interview, [YouTube](#), Jan. 28, 2012)

CONNECTICUT

• LINDA MCMAHON (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“I think [DACA is] just one piece of immigration reform. We do need, I think, overall immigration reform. The act that the President just enacted, I thought was unfortunate from the same point of the timing and I think the motive. I think it’s politically motivated. While I think we need overall [immigration] reform, I don’t think we should put folks who are not citizens ahead of our citizens here in the United States. I think we need to reinforce our borders and prevent more illegal immigration into this country. However, we are a country of immigrants and we should encourage those to come in legally. There are students who come here are and who are educated here in our country and then they leave with a lot of skills that we could clearly use. I want us to make it possible for them to stay.” (*Connecticut Plus Interview*, Aug. 6, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I support giving young people that are illegally here through no fault of their own and serve in the military a path to U.S. citizenship.” (*Connecticut Post*, Oct. 24, 2012)

Guest Workers

“Part of an overhaul of immigration, I think we need to have different kinds of temporary work visas. We have them now for our agricultural industry but I believe we should look more in our service industry as well. Whether it’s hotels or landscapers, etc. who can use those workers part time and they have to renew those visas, so it becomes easier to track them. In the mean time they are paying taxes and if they are compliant with the laws of the United States then it’s good to have those temporary workers in here.” (*Connecticut Plus Interview*, Aug. 6, 2012)

“Those who have come here illegally need to get to the back of the line. They should not be given amnesty, however, I think we can expand our visa program to allow more temporary workers.” (*Connecticut Post-Chronicle*, Apr. 22, 2012)

• CHRIS MURPHY (D) WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“This is the compassionate, smart thing to do. It just makes sense, from a moral and economic standpoint, to keep these kids, and their skills, here in America. But it’s only a first step – we’ve got to pass the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act, so these young people don’t have to go year to year, wondering if a change in presidential administration will force them to be suddenly deported.” (*New Haven Register*, Jun. 15, 2012)

DREAM Act

“Even though we knew that the United States Senate wouldn't pass it, we felt that it was important for the House of Representatives to show its support - and that's why I was proud to vote for it. That's why we need experienced legislators in the Senate who can fight for its passage.” (Chris Murphy for Senate Campaign [Website](#), May 5, 2012)

Secure Communities

“I worry that Secure Communities is not working as it was intended, because there are too many law abiding citizens that are caught up in the web of law enforcement. I want to go back to the drawing board.” ([CTNewsJunkie](#), May 8, 2012)

FLORIDA

• CONNIE MACK (R)

Amnesty

“America has always been, and should always be, a beacon for those seeking freedom. At the same time, we are a nation of laws, and those who come to America need to do so legally. That's why I oppose amnesty for illegal immigrants and why I support efforts to reduce and eliminate illegal immigration.” (Connie Mack Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Arizona's SB 1070

"I thought the Arizona law went too far. And in fact the legislature in Arizona agreed and made changes. Now they didn't go far enough for me, but they recognized they were on shaky ground. I think what we need to do is be tough on border security, that we need to have the E-Verify as a national system, that we need to be tough on illegal immigrants but at the same time not destroy the freedoms of some Americans that may look different than you and me." ([Tampa Bay Times](#), Nov. 29, 2011)

Border Security

“As I have stated before: current U.S. policy with Mexico does not address the national security challenge we face. The evolution and resilience of violent transnational criminal organizations in Mexico has outpaced this Administration's response. As these groups move easily between the United States and Mexico, they continue to ratchet up the level of violence. These TCOs know no limits and are a severe threat to citizens on both sides of the border....We can no longer afford to stand by and sacrifice the security of our country and our people. Too many American citizens have been terrorized as a direct result of the drug violence in Mexico and the impact extends from our national security to our economy. I call on the Administration to prioritize U.S. security and the U.S. economy in the face of this cross-border threat.” (Rep. Connie Mack [Press Release](#), Aug. 2, 2012)

“All Americans are threatened by drug trafficking and the violent Mexican drug cartels that operate in over a thousand cities in the United States. The State Department agrees that the activities taking place in Mexico are consistent with terrorist and insurgent activity in other regions of the world....If we are unable or unwilling to identify the problem correctly, then we are unable to properly put a policy forward to combat the issue at hand. The security and safety of the American people depend on it.” (Rep. Connie Mack [Press Release](#), Nov. 15, 2011)

Legal Immigration

“People who are coming looking for the American dream, we ought to welcome them....We ought to be honored that they want to come to this country. So we need to reform our laws and make it easier for people who want to come here legally to come here legally.” ([The Ledger](#), Sept. 26, 2012)

Amnesty / DREAM Act

“Sen. Nelson supports tough, fair, practical immigration laws that require people who want to become citizens to obey our laws, learn English, and get in line for citizenship. He also supports the DREAM Act, which says no law should punish children because their parents brought them here. If a child of an immigrant has worked hard and graduated from high school, they should be able to go into the military or attend college.” (Bill Nelson for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“If [Sen. Rubio’s plan is] the only thing we can pass, then I’m certainly open to it. But that’s not going to solve the problem because once the child – or now-grown student – gets through, what’s going to happen to them? Are they going to sit here in legal limbo? Are they going to have to go back to their country of origin and get in line to then come back? Well, at that point they think of themselves as American.” ([Huffington Post](#), May 3, 2012)

INDIANA

• RICHARD MOURDOCK (R)

Amnesty /DREAM Act

“Richard opposes the DREAM Act and any other legislation that would provide amnesty for illegal immigrants. He believes that we must act immediately to secure our borders and enforce the law.” (Richard Mourdock for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I am opposed to the DREAM Act or other forms of amnesty for those in our country illegally.” (*On The Issues* [Questionnaire](#), Sep. 1, 2011)

“I staunchly oppose the DREAM Act and any other legislation that would provide amnesty for illegal immigrants. I believe that we must act immediately to secure our borders and enforce the law.” (*Before It's News*, Apr. 20, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

“I will fight to secure our borders and ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent only on those legally allowed to live in the United States.” (*Before It's News*, Apr. 20, 2012)

“[W]here people come in the country in the middle of the night, illegally and begin to draw the benefits of everything from the U.S. social security system to healthcare, it's wrong.” (*NBC-Terre Haute*, May 2, 2012)

Border Security/Legal Immigration

“Congress should act on its responsibility by passing meaningful immigration reform that secures our borders, creates a transparent, workable and fair legal immigration process and creates enforcement resources adequate to this important responsibility. Immigrants, employers and local units of government deserve clear, effective and fair policies that are enforced in a uniform way across the country.” (*South Bend Tribune*, Oct. 14, 2012)

“I support federal legislation that would secure our border, make legal immigration more transparent and timely, and encourage a fair and humane enforcement of the law for illegal immigrants.” (*The Message* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 12, 2012)

• JOE DONNELLY (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“Although a solution will inevitably require bipartisan support, I will oppose any proposal that amounts to amnesty. The United States has a rich tradition built upon the hard work of immigrant citizens from all over the world, and we welcome legal immigration. Out of respect for our laws and

those who have followed them, I will continue to work hard to ensure that American citizenship is reserved for those who play by the rules.” (Rep. Joe Donnelly Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I think we need to first and foremost focus on securing our borders, while working on bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform. I have supported funding for additional border agents and the E-Verify system so employers can easily check the status of potential employees. Further, I am opposed to amnesty, as I think any solution should reward those who play by the rules. Our country has a proud tradition of legal immigration, and we need to continue to welcome those who want to come to this country in a legal way.” ([South Bend Tribune](#), Oct. 14, 2012)

Border Security

“I strongly believe that a solution to our country’s immigration crisis must begin with securing our borders. We are now at critical point in the immigration crisis, and I believe that we must make the necessary investments to keep our borders secure. I have consistently supported proposals to increase the number of border patrol agents, as well as increased funding for the technology and equipment necessary for these agents to prevent people from entering our country illegally. Since coming to Congress in January 2007, I have worked to successfully increase Border Patrol funding by nearly double over 2006 levels.” (Rep. Joe Donnelly Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

E-Verify

“Each year thousands of undocumented workers enter the United States in search of employment opportunities. Although it is against the law to knowingly hire undocumented workers, the incentive of cheap labor combined with the lax enforcement of employment laws have encouraged many employers to hire illegal immigrants. As a result, we must improve the workplace enforcement of our employment laws. That is why I am a strong backer of E-Verify, an electronic employment eligibility verification program available to employers, which uses Social Security Administration and Department of Homeland Security databases to quickly, inexpensively, and accurately check whether employees are legally employable.” (Rep. Joe Donnelly Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“Our country has a rich history of legal immigration, and to that end, I support those who travel to this country legally. I support bipartisan efforts to immigration reform as no one party gets it right 100 percent of the time. We will need to work together to fix the immigration system in our country.” (*The Message* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 12, 2012)

MASSACHUSETTS

• SCOTT BROWN (R)

Administrative Amnesty/DREAM Act

“I opposed this policy in legislative form, and I oppose it today as an executive order. While I’d be open to allowing young people who have chosen military service to obtain citizenship in recognition of the extraordinary sacrifice involved, I’m afraid that the administration’s policy is too broad and would set off a new wave of illegal immigration, making the problem worse, not better.” ([Boston Herald](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“I recognize that our strength as a nation is built on the immigrant experience in America. However, we are also a nation of laws, and government should not adopt policies that encourage illegal immigration. I oppose amnesty.” (Scott Brown for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“The Court’s decision today is another reminder that the federal government needs to deal with our broken immigration system. I believe the first step is securing the border and turning off the magnets that encourage people to come into country illegally.” (Scott Brown for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

“I believe government should not adopt policies that encourage illegal immigration. I have opposed proposals that include amnesty or access taxpayer-funded benefits for those who are in this country illegally.” (Sen. Scott Brown Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“It is wrong to provide driver’s licenses and in-state tuition to illegal immigrants because it will act as a magnet in drawing more people here in violation of the law and it imposes new costs on taxpayers.” (Scott Brown for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Border Security

“We must secure our borders as this is vital to our national security and the safety of all Americans.” (Sen. Scott Brown Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Employment Verification

“I believe we ought to strengthen our border enforcement and institute an employment verification system with penalties for companies that hire illegal immigrants.” (Scott Brown for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“I have always been a strong proponent of legal immigration and we should immediately streamline the process for those who are seeking citizenship through legal and proper channels. It is also true that we have always been and must remain a nation of laws.” (Scott Brown Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I always have supported legal immigration. I believe the arrival of new people to our shores has strengthened us as a country. But we are also a nation of laws and even as we say yes to legal immigration, we must take steps to end illegal immigration. Illegal immigration erodes respect for the law and it compromises our ability to maintain secure borders.” (*Lowell Sun* [Opinion Editorial](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

Secure Communities

“One of the ways we can address the problem of illegal immigration is through programs like Secure Communities. Over the last year, our state has experienced a series of violent crimes committed by illegal immigrants who had no business being in the country in the first place. Last summer, three tragic deaths in Brockton and Milford highlighted the clear need to identify and deport people who come here illegally and then commit new crimes. In Brockton, a woman and her child were murdered. In Milford, a man was killed by a drunken driver. In both cases, the perpetrators were in the country illegally and had previous run-ins with the law. If these individuals had been deported following their previous arrests, it’s possible the lives of three people could have been saved. As a state, we need to make every effort to prevent tragedies like this from happening again. That is why I support Secure Communities, and believe that Massachusetts needs to be fully participating in this very important program.” (*Lowell Sun* [Opinion Editorial](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

• ELIZABETH WARREN (D) WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“U.S. Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren applauds President Obama’s executive order to allow as many as 800,000 young, undocumented immigrants to avoid the threat of deportation for two years. Many of these young people have gone to school here or served in our military, and they should be able to continue living and working here...” (Elizabeth Warren for Senate [Press Release](#), Aug. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“We need common sense, comprehensive immigration reform. Any reform should have three components: It must uphold existing laws, protecting our borders and enforcing our laws against recruiting, hiring, and exploiting undocumented workers. It needs to be fair to all taxpayers and to legal immigrants. There should be a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, but one that would require them to pay taxes and go to the back of the line. It needs to help us retain talent trained at our world-class institutions and support job creation.”(Elizabeth Warren for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

MAINE

- CHARLIE SUMMERS (R)

Guest Workers

“We ought to be focused more on what we can do for our workers here in this state so that they and their children can have the best education possible so we don’t have to look beyond the borders.” ([Bangor Daily News](#), Sept. 12, 2012)

- CYNTHIA DILL (D)

DREAM Act

“The DREAM Act will remove the shackles from young people seeking America’s promise of opportunity.” ([Speech](#) to Maine Democratic Party, Jun. 2, 2012)

- ANGUS KING (I) **WINNER**

Amnesty

“Comprehensive, just, and humane immigration reform must be undertaken – reform that recognizes our immigrant heritage and future, and that creates effective and enforceable immigration laws to promote business, jobs, and legal immigration.” (Angus King for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I would support the Dream Act in that it rewards the activity we want – service to the country, hard work, and responsible contributions to [the] community.” (Maine League of Young Voters [Questionnaire](#), Oct 19, 2012)

“We shouldn’t reward illegal activity, but we can’t punish innocent people, like the children of illegal immigrants. As John McCain said in 2005: ‘[The 10 to 11 million undocumented immigrants] are working....’ We have a national interest in identifying these individuals, incentivizing them to come forward out of the shadows, go through security background checks, pay back taxes... Anyone who thinks this goal can be achieved without providing an eventual path to a permanent legal status is not serious about solving this problem.” (Angus King for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

MONTANA

• DENNY REHBERG (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“We need to be working to secure our border against terrorists and illegal immigrants, not rewarding criminals for breaking the law. President Obama's plan gives illegal immigrants a free pass and is a slap in the face to America’s law-abiding, hard-working citizens, including immigrants who follow the law. Congress has already said no, and I’ll continue to be a check and balance to yet another shameful power grab by President Obama.” (Rep. Denny Rehberg [Press Release](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“I oppose granting amnesty to those who are here illegally. I oppose any action that rewards a violation of law with citizenship to our great nation. It’s an insult to the millions of legal immigrants that work hard and play by the rules.” (Rep. Denny Rehberg Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“Arizona is just enforcing the federal immigration laws that the federal government refuses to enforce itself. Ultimately, the federal government ought to be carrying this water so Arizona doesn’t have to, but until that happens, you’d better believe I’m going to support Arizona’s right to enforce their law...Imagine if the federal government defaulted on its Social Security responsibility in Florida or its air traffic safety duties in New York. You can bet those states would be pretty upset. Well, for a border state like Arizona, illegal immigration is just as much a crisis, and the federal government has sat timidly on the fence. If the feds aren’t going to do their job, the least it can do is let someone else do it for them.” (Rep. Denny Rehberg [Press Release](#), Jul. 14, 2010)

Border Security

“In a post 9/11 world, securing our nation has taken on new meaning. That’s why I’ve voted to increase border security. I’ve also voted to allocate more resources, including some use of the military, to the border areas to attempt to stem the rate of illegal immigrants into the country. I’ve voted to build a fence on the southern border to assist local communities. In addition, I’ve voted to allow local law enforcement to have a role in protecting our country by ending the dangerous ‘catch and release’ policies of the past.” (Rep. Denny Rehberg Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

“A country that cannot control its borders cannot control its sovereignty. It’s just plain and simple. We have to be able to control our borders...We all came in as immigrants, but the problem is our borders have become so porous that people are coming across and its creating a problem...So I come down really hard on the issue of amnesty. I’m against amnesty, I think we need to control the borders, and then I think we can talk about a comprehensive immigration policy.” (Denny’s Desk, [YouTube](#), Jun. 24, 2010)

E-Verify

“At a time when the creation of new jobs is on everyone’s mind, ensuring that those new jobs are filled by legal workers is a crucial and often overlooked piece of the recovery puzzle. E-Verify has been a great success, the failure of Congress to authorize it for any significant amount of time has handicapped its widespread adoption by employers who need predictability and reliability.” (Rep. Denny Rehberg [Press Release](#), Mar. 9, 2009)

• JON TESTER (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“We’re not even enforcing the laws we already have on the books, so there’s no way I can support a new law that does nothing to make us safer and gives 12 million people living here illegally a free pass.” (Sen. Jon Tester [Press Release](#), Jun. 4, 2007)

Border Security

“Montana’s border stretches nearly 550 miles and must remain secure. While the southern border deserves a good portion of these resources, Montana’s long border cannot be overlooked. Securing our border presents its own challenges, and I’ll ensure that we don’t take our eye off the ball.” (Sen. Jon Tester [Press Release](#), Jun. 29, 2012)

“There’s no doubt we’ve got to do better at securing the southern border...These federal agencies have got to develop strategies and joint efforts that maximize existing resources so taxpayers are getting the most bang for their buck. We’ve got to make smarter use of technology because we don’t need or want the border overloaded with federal agents. And we’ve got to keep working to make state and local law enforcement a part of the team.” (Sen. Jon Tester [Press Release](#), Dec. 9, 2010)

DREAM Act

“Illegal immigration is a critical problem facing our country, but amnesty is not the solution. I do not support legislation that provides a path to citizenship for anyone in this country illegally.” (Sen. Jon Tester [Press Release](#), Dec. 17, 2010)

REAL ID

“As a staunch defender of Montanans’ Constitutional rights, Jon believes that effectively defending America can be achieved without invading privacy. That’s why Jon pushed hard to eliminate the federal government’s proposed REAL ID program — an effort to force all Americans to obtain national ID cards.” (Jon Tester for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

NEBRASKA

• DEB FISCHER (R) WINNER

Amnesty

“I do not support a path to citizenship for anyone who’s entered this country illegally and I do not [] support providing incentives for anyone.” ([KGIN-TV 1101](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

“If you look at my record in the Legislature, when it comes to what I define as incentives for illegals, I have been against offering any kind of incentives. I’m against a path to citizenship.” ([Omaha World-Herald](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

“The federal government’s failure to act has forced states like Nebraska to find solutions within their jurisdiction. In the Nebraska Unicameral, I’ve fought against the establishment’s attempts to reward illegal immigration. I voted against the law that provides in-state tuition for illegal aliens and I supported a bill that would repeal that law. I also supported LB 239, a bill that will require citizens to show a photo ID when they vote, which will help prevent voter fraud by illegal aliens.” (Deb Fischer for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

Border Security

“I believe we have to secure our borders. And it’s not just an immigration issue—that’s a national security issue, and I’m not just talking about the southern border. I’m talking about our ports as well. We need to know who’s coming into this country and what they’re bringing with them. The world’s changed since 9/11, so securing our borders is first and foremost the priority for me.” ([KGIN-TV 1101](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

“Provide necessary funding and resources to secure the Northern border and Southern border, as well as our ports. Increase the number of border patrol and enforcement agents.” (Deb Fischer for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

E-Verify

“We need to look at a mandatory E-Verify system for all businesses.” ([KGIN-TV 1101](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

“Implement a mandatory E-Verify system for employers. Enact stricter penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.” (Deb Fischer for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

Illegal Immigration

“Illegal immigration is a critical challenge in this country, and in our state. There are currently an estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. and we have no way of knowing who they are and what they may have brought into our country. Illegal immigration is a threat to national

security and the career politicians in Washington need to stop kicking the can down the road and enforce our laws.” (Deb Fischer for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

Sanctuary Cities

“Cut funding to state and local governments that adopt ‘sanctuary city’ policies.” (Deb Fischer for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Apr. 5, 2012)

• BOB KERREY (D)

Amnesty

“I don’t support deportation for everybody who is here undocumented and I don’t support amnesty either. I support a middle-course that increase the chances we’re going to be able to get people who are overstaying their visas, increase the chances that those who want to come here legally can get a visa, increase the chances of students who go to school here and acquire our skills are able to stay after they get done.” ([KGIN-TV 1101](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

“[Illegal aliens are] typically working extremely hard, they’re saving their money, they’re going to church on Sunday, they’re hanging together as a family, they’re doing everything that we say as Americans that we admire and respect,” Kerrey said. “We’ve got to make an effort to change our law so they feel a part of the community.” ([Omaha World-Herald](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I’ve endorsed the Rubio plan.” ([KGIN-TV 1101](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

“Citizenship should be offered to any immigrant serving in the Armed Forces.” (Bob Kerrey for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

Legal Immigration/Guest Workers

“Any immigrant seeking advanced college degrees should get work visas to stay in the U.S. after they graduate and their student visas expire.” (Bob Kerrey for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

“Speed up applications of permanent resident visas, or green cards, to spouses and children of green card holders living abroad.” (Bob Kerrey for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

“Update the system of temporary worker visas ‘so that it meets our economic needs.’ Updating the system has been held up by both parties in Congress amid failed efforts to achieve immigration reform.” (Bob Kerrey for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 26, 2012)

NEW MEXICO

• HEATHER WILSON (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“Unfortunately, the decision today is temporary and leaves many questions unanswered....Senator Rubio is working on a bi-partisan, long-term solution, and I hope today’s action doesn’t stall efforts like his to solve this very important issue.”

([ABC News](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“While I do not support amnesty, and never have, these are real lives at stake — children who were brought to this country through no decision of their own — and we owe it to them to find a long-term solution.” ([ABC News](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

“I support legal immigration....I don’t support amnesty because it is not fair to people standing in line at consulates around the world.” ([Washington Post](#), Apr. 19, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“I don’t think [SB 1070] works in New Mexico....I think New Mexico’s approach is a lot more pragmatic. In Albuquerque, anyone who is arrested and processed through the jail has their nationality checked.” ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

Border Security

“There are some places where barriers make sense....There are other places on the border, including in New Mexico, where the geography is so formidable that the geography would build a better barrier than a fence would.” ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

“[Border Security] requires a combination of people, technology, policies and barriers where appropriate.” ([NMPolitics](#), May 21, 2012)

“The United States must continue to extend operational control of our border....The Border Patrol must secure the border forward, and not just on the main roads a significant distance from the border....[The U.S.] must also strengthen intelligence collection in northern Mexico in order to disrupt the funding and operations of the narco-cartels operating there.” ([NMPolitics](#), May 21, 2012)

“Border security and immigration are two separate issues. More people, newer technology, better policies and increased resources since 2005 have helped border security, but we need to be concerned about heavily armed cartels and insurgents in northern Mexico coming across the border into New Mexico.” ([Clovis News Journal](#), Mar. 6, 2012)

DREAM Act

“We’ve got to find some kind of solution for children who are brought here by young parents through no choice of their own....We need to bring them into America. What the actual mechanism is and how we write the law I’m not sure. These are not choices these children make.” ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

• MARTIN HEINRICH (D) WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“As a longtime supporter of the DREAM Act, I urge any interested constituents to contact my office for assistance working with USCIS in processing their deferred action claims....Many undocumented children grow up in American towns, attend American schools, and play by the rules, but face deportation based on a decision their parents made many years ago. As a result, these promising individuals — who otherwise could have pursued an education to help grow our economy or strengthened our national defense by enlisting in the military— have been forced to leave our country.” (Rep. Martin Heinrich [Press Release](#), Aug. 14, 2012)

Amnesty

“It’s not amnesty if you make them take responsibility for what they did....If you put people through a background check, make them pay any back taxes, make them pay a fine and then get them into a legal, workable system where they’re not jumping ahead of other potential legal immigrants, that is a responsible way to move people into a workable system that isn’t amnesty.” ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“[SB 1070] sends the wrong message....The check-your-papers provisions are a step back for our country....I think there are a lot of people who are rightfully worried it could be used for racial profiling. It’s the wrong solution to a very real problem.” ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

“I am pleased that the Supreme Court has struck down key provisions of Arizona's immigration law, but I'm concerned that the 'show me your papers' provision that is still intact casts a wide net over all people of Hispanic descent, and will undoubtedly snare honest, hardworking Americans in a misguided attempt to deport undocumented immigrants. Arizona’s legislation was the wrong reaction to a very real issue. Passing laws that institutionalize racial profiling is no solution. I am proud that here in New Mexico we value our diverse heritage. Congress must rise to the challenge and fix this broken system at the federal level once and for all.” (Martin Heinrich for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

Border Security

“I think we need to do more [about drug cartels]....We need to really chase the money and find tools to crack down on the cartels that are moving that product across the border. These are

sophisticated operations, and we need a sophisticated law enforcement response. I think we're getting better at it, but I don't think we're there yet." ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

"I've spent some time on the border and the things I hear that really work are the vehicle barriers....The places where you have fencing where wildlife can move back and forth but you can't get a truck across the border are the places where they've really seen a difference in the amount of narco-trafficking going on." ([Albuquerque Journal](#), Sept. 5, 2012)

DREAM Act

"DREAM Act students represent much of what's best about our nation: hard work, motivation, and a willingness to serve this country. The DREAM Act is good for our economy, our security, and our nation. And the DREAM Act is the type of fair, practical immigration policy that Americans are demanding. It's time to make the Dream a reality." (Martin Heinrich for Senate [Press Release](#), Aug. 9, 2012)

"Now is the time for the party to formalize our commitment to the immigrant youth of America by adding adoption of the DREAM Act to its Democratic Convention Platform in 2012. This is the right thing to do for our party and the right thing to do for our country. We need these young men and women to succeed and we should not wait any longer to take action." ([Letter](#) to DNC Platform Committee, Aug. 9, 2012)

NEVADA

- DEAN HELLER (R) WINNER

Amnesty

“Illegal immigration costs American taxpayers an estimated \$113 billion a year in education, healthcare, and other publically funded benefits. If amnesty for illegal immigrants is enacted, it could cost taxpayers \$2 trillion and higher. I am strongly opposed to amnesty for illegal immigrants and do not believe it is in the best interest of our country.” (Sen. Dean Heller Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Border Security

“I support greater border security and the construction of a fence or other physical barrier to help secure our borders.” (Sen. Dean Heller Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“Additionally, illicit drug problems have come with our nation's lax border control. Nevada law enforcement officers have told me that up to 80 percent of the meth in our state comes from Mexico. Mexican black tar heroin is the most prevalent form of heroin in Nevada, and Mexican-grown marijuana is readily available in our state.” (Sen. Dean Heller Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Employment of Illegal Aliens

“Businesses that knowingly break the law and hire illegal immigrants should be fined. However, employers need effective tools to determine whether a worker is in our country legally and eligible for work.” (Sen. Dean Heller Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“Dean also understands that America is a nation of immigrants and has greatly benefited from legal immigration, which is why he supports reforms that would enable a safe, orderly legal immigration process.” (Dean Heller for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“At the same time, our nation’s immigration process is bureaucratic, expensive and time-consuming. Immigrants who wish to become citizens should not have to spend thousands of dollars on a lawyer to receive an answer from the immigration bureaucracy. For this reason, Dean supports responsible, effective reforms that provide those who wish to remain in our country legally an opportunity to bring their talents and contributions to our great nation.” (Dean Heller for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“I applaud the Obama Administration for keeping its word on implementing deferred action to give temporary relief to DREAM Act eligible Nevadans. The DREAM Act is a common sense measure that would give young Nevadans brought to this country through no fault of their own, and who go to college or serve their country in the military, a path toward legal status. While today's implementation represents one step forward, we need a permanent solution.” (Rep. Shelley Berkley [Press Release](#), Aug. 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“Shelley supports comprehensive immigration reform to secure our borders, make our immigration system stronger and provide these workers a way to earn legal status by learning English, finding a job, paying fines and back taxes, going to the back of the line and passing a criminal background check.” (Shelley Berkley for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

DREAM Act

“Shelley is also a strong supporter of the DREAM Act, which would give young people who were brought to this country by their parents through no fault of their own, stayed in school and kept out of trouble the opportunity to earn legal status by getting a college education or serving in the armed forces.” (Shelley Berkley for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

NORTH DAKOTA

- RICK BERG (R)

Border Security

“Unfortunately, Washington has failed us through years of accumulated neglect. Immigration reform should focus first on securing our borders from illegal immigrants, terrorists, and drug traffickers.” (Rick Berg for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Jun. 28, 2012)

E-Verify

“[W]e should empower businesses with the tools to verify citizenship and ensure we are all working toward the same goal of legal and orderly immigration. In doing so, we will continue to be a nation of opportunity and potential for those seeking to join us.” (Rick Berg for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Jun. 28, 2012)

Legal Immigration/Amnesty

“The greatness of a country can be judged by the amount of people seeking to live in it rather than leave it. We are a nation of immigrants, and I am proud that millions of people continue to seek a better life and more opportunities for themselves and their families here in America. The orderly and legal flow of immigrants is vital to continued economic vitality. *I oppose amnesty* and will continue to seek and promote reasonable and orderly paths to legal immigration for those wishing to contribute to our state and our country.” (Rick Berg for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Jun. 28, 2012)(emphasis added)

- HEIDI HEITKAMP (D) **WINNER**

No known position on immigration.

TEXAS

• TED CRUZ (R) WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“The Constitution places on the President the solemn responsibility to ‘take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed.’ President Obama has repeatedly defied the Constitution and flouted the rule of law. His latest decision to refuse to enforce our immigration laws is cravenly political, lawless, and wrong. We have a crisis in illegal immigration, and the federal government must get serious about securing our borders; this latest Obama policy is nothing more than an attempt to enact back-door amnesty, and I categorically oppose amnesty.” (Ted Cruz for Senate [Press Release](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

“If one believes that’s the correct immigration policy, then the proper remedy is to make a law.” ([Midland Reporter-Telegram](#), Oct. 10, 2012)

Amnesty

“I strongly oppose illegal immigration; I think we need to do everything possible to secure the border. I categorically oppose amnesty, and I strongly support *legal* immigrants who come here following the rules seeking the American Dream... Amnesty undermines the rule of law, and it’s fundamentally unfair—if you allow the people who came here illegally to get on a path to citizenship, to get on a path to forgiving their coming illegally, that is unfair. There are millions of people who have waited years and sometimes decades to stand in line to come here legally following the rules.” (Bill Bennett Radio Show [Interview](#), Nov. 30, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“When Arizona stepped in to address out-of-control illegal immigration, liberal groups attacked Arizona and the Obama Administration sued the State. Rather than actually enforce our Nation’s immigration laws—which is the President’s explicit constitutional obligation—President Obama instead asked the Supreme Court to strike down Arizona’s law. Today, the Supreme Court upheld the central provision of the Arizona law. Although the Court unfortunately struck down other provisions of the Arizona law, the Court held that there is no barrier in federal law to States’ requiring local law enforcement to check on the immigration status of those criminally detained.” ([Texas Tribune](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

Border Security

“Ted Cruz has worked to strengthen border security and help ensure that America remains a nation of laws. Among other efforts, he has worked on efforts to increase penalties for felons who enter the country illegally.” (Ted Cruz for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“We need leaders who will get serious about enforcing the border: triple the border patrol; use walls, fences, and technology; end sanctuary cities; repeal Obama’s newly ordered amnesty; and end benefits like in-state tuition for illegal aliens.” ([Texas Tribune](#), Jun. 25, 2012)

Amnesty

“Paul Sadler supports a path to citizenship for law-abiding undocumented immigrants who pay taxes.” (On The Issues [Questionnaire](#), Apr. 28, 2012)

Border Security

“I think the very idea that we would take a Berlin Wall-type scenario and stick it on our border is offensive.” ([Texas Tribune](#), Oct. 19, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I think we should have enacted the DREAM Act a long time ago. It targets our involved young people who, through no fault of their own, were raised here. Many have served in our military, they've been successful in school, and I think we should allow them to pursue the American dream.” ([Midland Reporter-Telegram](#), Oct. 10, 2012)

VIRGINIA

• GEORGE ALLEN (R)

Administrative Amnesty

“For blatant political purposes President Obama is ignoring the proper Constitutional responsibilities of elected representatives and making it more difficult to enact reasonable long-term immigration reforms. This short-term ploy is disappointing in that it disregards the proper role of case-by-case judgment in these individual matters.” ([ABC News](#), Jun. 15, 2012)

Amnesty/Border Security

“A country that cannot control its own border really cannot control its own sovereignty, and so I think that's absolutely essential that we do that, and I'm not for amnesty. I'm not for rewarding illegal behavior with benefits. If you reward illegal behavior, guess what? You'll get more illegal behavior... I was against McCain and others who were pushing that amnesty bill when I was in the U.S. Senate. Heck, when I was in the legislature, Mr. Jefferson's seat, I got a resolution through the Democrats against Simpson-Mazzoli, which gave amnesty to three million people who were in our country illegally and I said, 'You know, you do this, you're going to get more people coming in.' Now we have, estimated, 11 million in our country illegally. So my view is: secure the border, we're for legal immigration, do not reward illegal behavior.” (VA Senate Candidate Forum, [YouTube](#), Feb. 23, 2012)

DREAM Act

“If the government rewards illegal behavior, we will encourage more illegal behavior. The so-called ‘Dream Act’ being pushed by Washington liberals like Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Leader Harry Reid, and Senators Durbin and Kerry is a flawed piece of legislation that rewards illegal behavior with benefits paid for by taxpayers.” (George Allen [Press Release](#), Dec. 18, 2010)

Legal Immigration/Guest Workers

“I'm all for legal immigration. My mother is an immigrant who came to this country after World War II. And so I think legal immigration is important.... I think, listening to the people of Virginia, they're for securing the border, they're for legal immigration, they're for legal temporary workers who may want to come in and seasonal work in the hotel and hospitality and a lot of other businesses that are important in Virginia, where they can't find Americans to do the work.” (VA Senate Candidate Forum, [YouTube](#), Feb. 23, 2012)

• TIM KAINE (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“[W]e must require the millions of undocumented persons in the United States to admit to a violation of immigration laws and pay an appropriate penalty. Only in the event of full acceptance of responsibility and payment of appropriate fines should we allow individuals to seek lawful

adjustment of their immigration status. This is a path that seeks strict adherence to our laws, increases border security, and also seeks to strengthen our work force and international competitiveness. Our immigration system should be one that is realistic and humane, economically viable, protects American jobs, and allows the best and brightest from across the world to come here and pursue the American dream.” (Tim Kaine for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)

“I would require those who are here illegally to sort of, you know, raise their hand and come forward and say, ‘We broke the law.’ By admitting that you’re breaking the law, you’re going to have that as a criminal violation, as a legal violation, and you’re going to have to pay a penalty, and it’s going to be a significant penalty that you will pay over a period of time, whether it’s a fine or whether it’s an escalated tax rate, you’re going to have to pay that. We would take that money that was being paid by those who have come here unlawfully, and we would use it to increase border security. ...If somebody’s here unlawfully and they commit a crime, a significant crime, then we ought to deport them, and I strongly believe in that, and when I was governor, when we had people in our jails who were here unlawfully, we always turned them over to ICE and let them know, hey look, somebody’s here, they’re about to get out, you need to, you know, make sure you’re doing what you need to do to, you know, put them somewhere else. But I think the right strategy is to have a penalty for those who are here unlawfully and use those monies to increase border security.” ([InsideNoVa](#), Feb. 27, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“Unfortunately, while Democrats in Washington seek a responsible solution to the challenges that we all face with respect to America’s current immigration laws, Republicans have proposed a patchwork of extreme fixes that will not help the situation and will instead serve to undermine Americans’ liberties and civil rights while fostering intolerance. There is no clearer example of such extremism than the bill signed in Arizona today by Republican Governor Jan Brewer and endorsed by Senator John McCain who had previously been a sponsor of comprehensive immigration reform. Arizona’s new law tramples on Americans’ basic notions of justice and legitimizes prejudice – it is both small-minded and short-sighted.” (DNC Chair Tim Kaine Statement on SB 1070, [PRNewswire](#), Apr. 23, 2010)

DREAM Act

“I support the DREAM Act so that students brought to the United States by their parents are not penalized, but instead given a meaningful opportunity to educate themselves and/or serve in our nation’s military, thereby becoming productive members of this country.” (Tim Kaine for Senate Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)

WISCONSIN

• TOMMY THOMPSON (R)

Amnesty/Border Security

“You’re never going to deport 12 million people, but let’s start being smart. Let’s make sure that we protect our boundaries, our borders, we haven’t done that. So let’s continue building the fence which Obama’s now stopped... Let’s penalize individuals that hire illegal immigrants, and let’s be smart about it. Let’s protect our borders and let’s make sure that we’re gonna be able to get people to come into this country the right way. The legal way. And that is what I’m all about. Making sure that we have legal immigration and make sure that we do not have amnesty, and make sure that we protect the borders.” ([CBS 58 News](#), Aug. 3, 2012)

“Thompson supports comprehensive immigration reform—of which President Obama has avoided any sort of thorough action despite repeated promises; including a means for dealing with illegal aliens already in the country, but has concerns about the logistical effectiveness of a ‘touchback.’” (Campaign interview with the [Examiner](#), Jun. 29, 2012)

E-Verify

“Our current system uses E-verify on a voluntary basis, Tommy Thompson supports a reasonably applied e-verify system that requires participation.” (Campaign interview with the [Examiner](#), Jun. 29, 2012)

• TAMMY BALDWIN (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“Comprehensive immigration reform is needed to secure our borders and strengthen our economy. It is also important for Wisconsin’s dairy farmers. I oppose complete “amnesty,” but believe that there needs to be a path for the estimated 10 million undocumented workers currently in the U.S. to become documented through a legal process of applying for permanent residency or citizenship.” (Rep. Tammy Baldwin Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I believe he [Tommy Thompson] supports the DREAM Act. I do too.” (Baldwin-Thompson [Debate](#) at 47:51, Oct. 18, 2012)

Guest Workers

“[Wisconsin] has a long history of welcoming immigrants who have contributed to our economy and our culture. Today, immigrants continue to play an important role in our workforce. In Wisconsin, 40% of all hired dairy employees are immigrants. Farm families depend on these workers, whose hard work is essential to the survival of many farms.” (Rep. Tammy Baldwin Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)



ARIZONA

First Congressional District

- JONATHAN PATON (R)

Arizona's SB 1070

"I am proud to be the author of the nation's first state-based human smuggling law, as well as voting for and helping to pass SB1070, Arizona's immigration law." (Jonathan Paton for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

"I sponsored a bipartisan bill, signed by Gov. Janet Napolitano, to crack-down on human smuggling...I voted for and helped pass Arizona's immigration law, SB1070...." ([Arizona Daily Sun](#), Oct. 8, 2012)

Border Security

"We must secure the border and stop the vicious drug cartels from making further inroads into Arizona. Something is seriously wrong when signs must be posted telling visitors to stay away from national parks due to drug cartel activity — and yet the federal government does nothing about it. Rather than mock the problem along our border, Washington needs do something about the urgent crisis we face that is bankrupting our schools and hospitals and putting our communities and law enforcement officers in danger. We need a major influx of national guardsmen on our border, completion of the double layer fence, more technology and more checkpoints. I believe that border security is national security, and we must proceed with urgency." (Jonathan Paton for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

"The federal government has failed miserably at securing the border. Today, government posts signs on our public lands that they are just too dangerous for citizens to enjoy. During my time in the Legislature, I voted to allow the state National Guard to patrol the Arizona-Mexico border and work with federal agencies.... I'll continue working to secure the border...." ([Arizona Daily Sun](#), Oct. 8, 2012)

Illegal Immigration

"If you've come here illegally you've broken our laws....I believe in legal immigration." ([ABC-Tucson](#), Oct. 9, 2012)

Amnesty

“Congress and the federal government need to develop a fair, sensible program to help farmers, ranchers, and numerous other industries that face labor shortages. While I do not support amnesty, there needs to be a mechanism in place to match willing workers with willing employers, while protecting the rights of legal immigrants. Such a program would need bipartisan support, and I would be happy to take the lead in the Arizona delegation, working with my own party and across the aisle to help develop a plan.” ([Arizona Daily Sun](#), Oct. 8, 2012)

Border Security

“Immigration and border security issues are especially urgent here in Arizona, but unfortunately we’ve seen many elected officials and candidates use these issues for their own political gain instead of actually solving the problems. I support a federal immigration strategy that includes a) proper funding for border security and the tools to protect our communities from criminal cartels and traffickers, and b) fair and sensible reform measures that recognize those who are in our country working hard, playing by the rules and doing their part to build a stronger future. This is what America was founded on.” (Ann Kirkpatrick for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I support a federal immigration strategy that protects our borders from the criminal cartels while offering fair and sensible reforms for people working hard and playing by the rules.” ([Arizona Daily Sun](#), Oct. 8, 2012)

“I have zero tolerance for criminal activity on the border, and we have to tighten up on that.” ([ABC-Tucson](#), Oct. 9, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I support it. The DREAM Act provides a fair and sensible process for young people who were brought into this country as children and are now working hard, playing by the rules and building a stronger future. This rigorous process allows young people who meet specific qualifications to serve in the armed forces or pursue a higher education in order to obtain legal status. The DREAM Act has been endorsed by fair-minded people across our nation -- from top Pentagon officials to editorial boards to Republicans and Democrats alike.” (Ann Kirkpatrick for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I support the DREAM Act, which offers a fair and sensible path so that we are not punishing young people who were brought here as children and are working to build a stronger future.” ([Arizona Daily Sun](#), Oct. 8, 2012)

ARIZONA

Ninth Congressional District

- VERNON PARKER (R)
-

Arizona SB 1070

“There is no doubt that immigration is a federal issue. Since the federal government chose not to live up to its responsibility, Arizona had little choice but to act. Let us not forget it was Governor Janet Napolitano that repeatedly sent invoices to the federal government to pay for incarcerating illegal immigrants. She was fed up then, but now that she is the Secretary of Homeland Security, she has forgotten about the people of Arizona. Even worse the Obama administration’s cancelling of the valuable 287(g) agreements is a further blow to the federal government’s commitment to enforce the law.” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

“The State of Arizona is trying to do what the federal government has failed to do, and that is protect the border. And especially when you talk about drugs coming into the State of Arizona, Arizona is the number one state in America where drugs filter into...We must enforce the law. The federal government has to step up and protect the citizens of the State of Arizona. Not just the citizens of Arizona, but also American citizens and that’s what 1070 really cried out for, ‘federal government do your job.’ And the federal government has failed to do that...SB 1070 did nothing more than say here is the federal law, we must protect the federal law, we must protect the borders.” (*Fox News, [YouTube](#)*, July 29, 2010)

Border Security

“Particularly with the on-going drug war in Mexico reaching farther and farther north, we need to do more to secure our border. There are sections of our shared border that are guarded by a single strand of barbed wire or less. Needless to say drugs continue to flood into America, feeding addicts and destroying lives. Our inability to control the flow of people and drugs fuels a black-market economy for labor and illicit drugs. We need to make sure that the Obama Administration put back into place 287(g).” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

“We need leaders who will insist that border security is a national security problem for the United States. We must enforce our laws against employers who hire illegal aliens and eliminate the lawlessness along our border. By securing the California and Texas border, the federal government effectively funneled the majority of drug and human trafficking into Arizona. It is incomprehensible that our borders remain unsecured, but all travelers have to take their shoes off to fly on an airplane. We screen visa applicants and travelers, but we leave the back door to our country wide open. Once the border is secure we can focus our attention on reforming our broken immigration system.” (Vernon Parker for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 27, 2012)

DREAM Act/Administrative Amnesty

“The plight of the individuals who fall subject to the Dream Act tug at the heartstrings, mine included. Yet I do not support the legislation as written. President Obama’s temporary amnesty by Executive Order makes a solution much more difficult. We should not play election year politics like the President.” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

Guest Workers

“The existing H-2A agriculture visa program is unlimited in number of potential participants each year. The program doesn’t work because employers find it too difficult to hire perspective workers and our lax enforcement means they don’t need to use it. I have not seen a guest worker proposal that addresses either of these issues. Particularly at a time when so many Americans are out of work, I am focused on getting them back to work first and reforming our temporary visas programs at a future date.” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

• KRYSTEN SINEMA (D)

Amnesty

“I believe in a tough-but-fair path to citizenship for undocumented workers that requires them to get right with the law by paying back taxes and fines and learning English as a condition of gaining citizenship. Families who have been a living here for years are relying on Congress to settle their status.” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

“Sinema believes now is the time to act, and supports a comprehensive approach that increases resources to ensure our border is safe and secure, creates a market-based solution that meets the demand for skilled and unskilled labor in our country, and settles the status of millions of undocumented workers in our country. Mass deportations are not an option – not only would the cost to taxpayers be astronomical, but it would be unfair and inhumane to many families.” (Krysten Sinema for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)

Arizona SB 1070/State Immigration Enforcement Efforts

“I believe that SB1070 is a misguided solution to a very real problem. It does nothing to secure the border or stop dangerous criminals from crossing the U.S. SB 1070 complicates the job of law enforcement personnel who have enough work on their plates. I support community policing programs that build trust and accountability in neighborhoods. These programs have proven effective at cracking down on crime and increasing safety and security in neighborhoods.” (*Arizona Central [Candidate Questionnaire](#)*, Oct. 28, 2012)

“In 2011, when Arizona Senate President Russell Pearce introduced a package of anti-immigrant bills, Sinema teamed up with conservative legislators, the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and other business leaders to stop these bills, including one that would not recognize “birthright” citizenship, a right guaranteed by the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Sinema helped build a coalition strong enough to move conservative votes away from Republican Senate President

Russell Pearce to defeat the bills.” (Krysten Sinema for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 28, 2012)

Border Security

“We need a comprehensive solution that ensures that the border is safe and secure. The smuggling cartels are sophisticated and know how to pierce the fence or tunnel under it. Security will come with boots on the ground, high-tech sensors, fencing, and horse patrols in tougher terrain. We must also address the underlying economic issues in order to solve this problem.” (*Arizona Central Candidate Questionnaire*, Oct. 28, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I was an early supporter of the DREAM Act. I was one of the first to co-sponsor a resolution at the state legislature that urged Congress to pass the DREAM Act. I believe that children who grew up in the U.S., who came here through no fault of their own, speak English and think of themselves as American should be allowed to become American citizens. Many of these students know no other country but ours, have served in uniform to defend it, are educated and ready to work, and deserve a legal path to U.S. citizenship. In addition, the DREAM Act would help reduce the federal deficit and increase our military readiness.” (*Arizona Central Candidate Questionnaire*, Oct. 28, 2012)

Guest Workers

“I believe that we need a market-based mechanism to fill the labor demand for jobs that our work force is not filling.” (*Arizona Central Candidate Questionnaire*, Oct. 28, 2012)

CALIFORNIA

Seventh Congressional District

- DAN LUNGREN (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

"If this President had wanted to have major immigration reform, he could have done it. That's the disappointing thing. There were those of us willing to work with him on it. He never extended his hand. The idea of having the DREAM Act sitting out there--this thing that he did--six months, or less than six months before the election? Come on, that's pretty cynical." (*ABC-Sacramento Debate*, Sept. 25, 2012)

Amnesty

"In regard to the question of amnesty, I will oppose any bill brought to the floor of the House that includes an amnesty provision that confers citizenship status. My major concern relates to the fact that there are millions of legal immigrants who wait years in order to obtain permanent residence and citizenship. It violates both fairness and respect for the law to allow those who have entered our country illegally to "cut in the front of the line" through the adoption of an amnesty provision." (Rep. Dan Lungren Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

"Some [illegal aliens] I would [send back]. Of course some I would. Those who just got their foot across the border yesterday? What right do they have to be in the United States? We have to establish a program in which we figure out those people who have some roots in the community. And you don't have to put them on a "pathway to citizenship." I guarantee you that will be viewed as amnesty and everybody understands that if you cut in line, there's something wrong. I have had a program that I have proposed that would allow those who have roots in the community not to have the pathway to citizenship but have what we call a Blue card. So for a five year period of time, they would be able to stay in the United States, but they would not be on the path to citizenship, they'd have to go home and sign off there, get behind the line like everybody else." (*ABC-Sacramento Debate*, Sept. 25, 2012)

Birthright Citizenship

"I have co-authored with my colleagues Nathan Deal and Brian Bilbray is the Birthright Citizenship Act (H.R. 1868). The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides that "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside." The Birthright Citizenship Act states that a person born in the United States shall be considered 'subject to the jurisdiction' of the United States if born of parents, one of whom is a citizen or national of the U.S.; an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States whose residence is in the United States; or an alien performing active service in the armed forces. The children of those unlawfully present would not qualify for birthright citizenship." (Rep. Dan Lungren Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Border Security

“The United States Constitution in Article 1 Section 8 places the responsibility for the regulation of immigration with Congress. It is my belief that as a sovereign nation we must meet this responsibility and regain control over our borders. In order to do so we must continue to increase the size of the border patrol by 2000 positions each year and we must double the number of workplace inspectors to enforce the unlawful hiring of illegal aliens.” (Rep. Dan Lungren Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Visa Lottery

“I support things like, this last week, where we voted to get rid of the diversity exception. It's a 55,000 visa program that was originally established by Tip O'Neil to help the Irish get in. It has nothing to do with skills people have. It is a violation of the worldwide quota system where we have people from all over the world coming.” (ABC-Sacramento [Debate](#), Sept. 25, 2012)

• AMI BERA (D)

Border Security / Enforcement

“Immigration in the broader sense, though, is an issue of security. The first thing we have to do is we have to secure our borders. The next thing we have to do is we have to actually take the laws that we have and enforce those laws.” (ABC-Sacramento [Debate](#), Sept. 25, 2012)

DREAM Act

“You know, I would have supported the DREAM Act. These are kids that came here; this gives them a chance to become citizens in a country that they love by serving in the military, by going to college.” (ABC-Sacramento [Debate](#), Sept. 25, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“As the son of parents that immigrated here in the 1950s, we want the best and brightest to come to this country, we want them to get their education, and then we want them to build their companies here because that is an issue that moves our economy forward.” (ABC-Sacramento [Debate](#), Sept. 25, 2012)

“We should have those that have successfully graduated from college, they can apply for an extension of their visas, and then over time they should be able to become citizens, so they can build their companies here. That is our history and that is our legacy as Americans. And that has propelled our economy forward.” (ABC-Sacramento [Debate](#), Sept. 25, 2012)

CALIFORNIA

Tenth Congressional District

- JEFF DENHAM (R) WINNER

Border Security

“We have secured our borders—they are much stronger than they once were. Over the last several years we’ve done a number of different things to increase border security. I do think that having National Guard along our border is something that can be helpful, but overall we need to have a comprehensive plan that deals with all aspects of immigration policy.” (*Modesto Bee* Candidates Forum, [YouTube](#), May 1, 2012)

“We absolutely need to have a secure border that has the presence of both law enforcement and the military so we don’t see the type of methamphetamines that are coming up across that southern border.” (*The Ceres Courier*, April 18, 2012)

E-Verify/Guest Worker

“There’s an E-Verify push in both Houses right now. My fear is that if you push E-Verify without a guest worker program, again you’re just going to have another flawed system that has a potential to deport people without addressing our overall needs. So I’m going to continue to push for a guest worker program that’s meaningful for here in the valley.” (*Modesto Bee* Candidates Forum, [YouTube](#), May 1, 2012)

Immigration Enforcement

“Right now you’ve got the president that is pushing ICE. Over one million illegal immigrants have been deported now, tearing up families, but at the same time also affecting our jobs here in the valley. ICE is coming in and targeting businesses in the peak of production season and it’s unhealthy for a community, it’s unhealthy for a family. That’s why I think we need to have comprehensive reform.” (*Modesto Bee* Candidates Forum, [YouTube](#), May 1, 2012)

- JOSE HERNANDEZ (D)

Amnesty

“Having 12 million undocumented people here means there’s something wrong with the system, and the system needs to be fixed.” (*Los Angeles Times*, Sept. 17, 2009)

DREAM Act

“I think the DREAM Act -- in any sense of the word -- is something that is very, very necessary. We have kids here who were brought, when they were young, into the United States, and have grown up here all their lives. This is all they know. For us to say, 'Hey, they belong back in their native

country' -- well, it's not really their country, because this is the culture that they've known."
([Huffington Post](#), Dec. 11, 2011)

State and Local Enforcement

"I don't think local law enforcement should be doing the job of federal authorities in regards to immigration." ([Modesto Bee](#), Apr. 11, 2012)

CALIFORNIA

Twenty-Sixth Congressional District

- TONY STRICKLAND (R)

Legal Immigration

"My mother is an immigrant from Germany and so I am very interested in this topic. I think a big part of the problem is that we do not have enough legal immigration. There is just too much red tape that makes it very difficult for people to come here legally. I think we should encourage people who want to come here and work in our agriculture and hotel industries. We need them. I also think there should be a visa attached to our college diplomas. People come here and get educated and then we send them home. We should allow them to stay here and create jobs." (Western Growers Association [Legislator Profile](#), July 23, 2012)

- JULIA BROWNLEY (D) **WINNER**

Amnesty

"Our country is a country of immigrants and there is no doubt that our immigration system is broken and needs a common sense approach to comprehensive reform. Immigration reform should reflect our values as a nation, which include consideration of the importance of families and communities, and does not unnecessarily damage our economic vitality and competitiveness. I would advocate for the creation of an earned pathway to citizenship, coupled with increased border security measures and mechanisms to both hold employers who knowingly violate the law accountable and make sure that workers and businesses pay their fair share of taxes." (Julia Brownley for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 29, 2012)

DREAM Act

"In Congress, I'll work to create jobs in Ventura County by expanding the middle class and improving our schools, while supporting the DREAM Act at the federal level and making sure that all of our students who work hard, get good grades and graduate high school have access to a quality education." (Julia Brownley for Congress Campaign [Press Release](#), Oct. 21, 2012)

In-State Tuition for Illegal Aliens

“These students get into college because they have all of the grades, have taken all of the courses that they need to take, and then they enter into college and they say, 'all that experience that you had in your k12 education, when you were supported and embraced by that institution, you've come to higher education now, and sorry, the rules are all different. You are here, you deserve to be here, you deserve a college degree, but you know what? We're not going to provide any financial aid to you.'...That's not okay. These are worthy students. They deserve this opportunity. This is a historical moment because we're going to make a wrong a right for the first time in California.” (Assembly Access, [YouTube](#), Oct. 13, 2011)

CALIFORNIA

Forty-First Congressional District

- JOHN TAVAGLIONE (R)

Amnesty

“I absolutely do [support comprehensive immigration reform]. We have 12 million undocumented immigrants here in the United States. And to think that we're going to send all of those immigrants back is foolish. We do, however, need to give them a path to citizenship. They deserve a path to citizenship... Immigration reform hasn't happened—why has it not happened ladies and gentlemen?—because the U.S. Congress, both parties, do not know how to work towards common solutions, and that's what I will take to Washington.” ([The Press-Enterprise](#), Oct. 3, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I believe that we should not, the federal government or the State of California, be using our kids as pawns. Our Hispanic immigrant kids as pawns to achieve a goal. Quite frankly...I've worked, given millions of dollars of scholarships over the years and I've never checked the status of a child.” ([The Press-Enterprise](#), Oct. 3, 2012)

E-Verify

“The Democratic Party has not made [E-Verify] mandatory. Why has that not happened?... E-Verify needs to be mandatory throughout the nation, first and foremost.” ([The Press-Enterprise](#), Oct. 3, 2012)

- MARK TAKANO (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“I support comprehensive immigration reform. I support first of all, making sure that we secure our borders and our immigration service is fully funded to secure our borders. Second, we need a cost-

effective way to have businesses verify who is documented and who is undocumented, making sure that it's an accurate system. Third, we do need a clearer pathway for people to earn their way to citizenship, especially for those people who've served in the armed services, we need a way for them to be able to get a pathway to citizenship, but specifically people need to be able to pay back taxes or pay a penalty, go back to the end of the line, and yet be eligible to gain legal status and citizenship...." ([The Press-Enterprise](#), Oct. 3, 2012)

DREAM Act/Administrative Amnesty

"I do believe as a teacher that we must pass the DREAM Act. It is the humane thing to do...Congress should put that [deferred action] order by President Obama into law and I will do that as a member of Congress." ([The Press-Enterprise](#), Oct. 3, 2012)

CALIFORNIA

Fifty-Second Congressional District

- BRIAN BILBRAY (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

"I am extremely disappointed in the Administration's announcement to ignore U.S. immigration law by creating yet another 'backdoor amnesty' policy, particularly after denying for months that they were even considering it. The timing of this announcement is politically motivated and the policy is possibly in violation of the law. How can we expect anyone visiting our country to respect our laws when the administration is unwilling to enforce or chooses to ignore them? This mixed message will only encourage more illegal immigration and contribute to more deaths along the border." (Rep. Brian Bilbray [Press Release](#), June 15, 2012)

Amnesty

"The American people have heard these promises before. That if you allow us to do this for this population, we promise to get tough on the real problem, the employers. We promise we'll get around to it. No. The American people know better than that. They say we want to see you do the heavy lifting." (*Real Clear Politics* [Interview](#), May 9, 2011)

"During the first session of the 110th Congress, [Congressman Bilbray's Immigration Reform Caucus] was able to stop multiple attempts to pass amnesty legislation." (Rep. Brian Bilbray Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

"As a nation, we need to ensure respect for the laws of this country and fairness for the millions of immigrants who came here legally and have waited in line." (Brian Bilbray for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Arizona's SB 1070

"The failure, or the unwillingness, of the federal government to enforce U.S. immigration laws not only caused Arizona, but other states to take action. We cannot continue to send mixed messages with our immigration policy and expect a different result. While we are examining the impact of the Supreme Court's decision, the problem still remains." (Rep. Brian Bilbray [Press Release](#), June 25, 2012)

Border Security

"We need to finish the fence between the United States and Mexico. This should include the use of new, enhanced technologies such as unmanned aerial vehicles. We need to increase the number of agents patrolling the border and the number of Immigration Control Enforcement (sic) (ICE) agents who should focus more on interior enforcement and train local authorities throughout the nation to assist them." (Brian Bilbray for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

"We also need to recognize that a weak border provides easy access to our nation and our people for those who would cause harm including terrorists, illegal drug smugglers, and other violent criminals." (Brian Bilbray for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Consequences of Illegal Immigration

"At the end of the day, I think we need to remember that taxpayers are being forced to pay a steep price – in both money and in violent crime – for the federal government's failure to address the immigration issue. In addition to that, we need to remember that the human smuggling, prostitution, murder and virtual enslavement of human beings drawn to this nation by private sector and taxpayer-funded jobs is a crisis that is best addressed by securing not only the border, but the job market, as well." (Brian Bilbray for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

"The issue of illegal immigration has become one of the most important debates in Congress and throughout the United States as the American people have begun to understand how the federal government's failure to address illegal immigration has negatively impacted our communities." (Brian Bilbray Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

DREAM Act

"The Dream Act, whether it is adopted federally or in California, is a nightmare for lawful U.S. citizens seeking higher education. California's AB 130 and 131 put American citizens and legal immigrants in direct competition with illegal immigrants for already limited financial aid opportunities, further encourage illegal immigration, and reward illegal behavior with tax-dollars. Allowing those who have broken our immigration laws to access publicly funded financial aid, such as Cal Grants, impacts the funding available for lawful students. Seats in the classroom and tuition aid are the two most important opportunities students possess and are two priorities we must reserve for those who are lawfully here." (Rep. Brian Bilbray [Press Release](#), Oct. 8, 2011)

Employment of Illegal Aliens/E-Verify

"I think [President Obama] is continuing the job that George Bush did, and that is let's play the game at the border, but let's not talk about the real source of the problem, and that's illegal employers. If we all, Democrats and Republicans, focused on the source, the illegal employers, that's the one

place we should be able to all agree on that we shouldn't allow anybody to make a buck and be able to exploit the illegals by hiring them. And once we eliminate that, we won't have to be sending our resources to the border, because there won't be people wanting to come here illegally because there will be no jobs for 'em here when we get here. So, let's focus on the employers. If Democrats and Republicans can't do that, we don't have the right to ask the American people to trust us with any other program.” (*Real Clear Politics* [Interview](#), May 9, 2011)

“[W]e need to identify and aggressively prosecute exploitive employers who continue to hire illegal immigrants. This is why I took the lead in demanding that all federal contractors use the new ‘E-Verify’ system to make sure taxpayer’s money only goes to paychecks for individuals who are in this country legally.” (Brian Bilbray for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

“No, [the president has not improved border security since he took office] because the border -- look, I've grown up on the border. I rescued illegals when they were drowning, recovered their bodies. I've seen them slaughtered on our highways. The president has got to understand the border is a symptom of the problem. Not until he requires every employer to [use] E-verify, to make sure no American is encouraging illegal immigration by hiring illegals.” (*Real Clear Politics* [Interview](#), May 9, 2011)

• SCOTT PETERS (D)

Amnesty

“Now we have to figure out what do you do about 11 million people who don't have documents. It's the same number of people as in Ohio. You're not going to deport them, right.... That's impractical.” (*Daily Aztec* [Interview](#), Oct. 25, 2012)

“I'll work with our entire San Diego delegation to tackle this head-on and work towards real, common-sense, comprehensive immigration reform.” (Scott Peters for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Border Security

“We don't want crime across the border, so we want a secure border so we're not seeing people shipping guns or people or drugs across the border, I think everyone agrees on that.” (*KPBS-San Diego* [Interview](#), May 29, 2012)

“We need a policy that's tough, fair, and practical. It needs to be tough on border security to prevent people from trying to smuggle guns, drugs or people. It needs to be fair to taxpayers, and it needs to be a practical solution that will finally address the problem.” (Scott Peters for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

DREAM Act

“One thing I do support is the DREAM Act, the idea that a kid who comes here as a child would be able to get an education or go into the military and earn their right to residency. I think that's a fair and practical kind of approach.” (*KPBS-San Diego [Interview](#)*, May 29, 2012)

“I support the DREAM Act. I think the DREAM Act makes a lot of sense. Immigration policy has to be tough, fair to taxpayers and practical. I think everyone agrees we have to stop crime at the border.” (*Daily Aztec [Interview](#)*, Oct. 25, 2012)

Illegal Employment / Guest Workers

“We’re all for George Bush’s policy. I’m adopting it—how ’bout that? [A] secure border against real criminals, not people who come across the border to pick strawberries...a reasonable guest-worker program and a path to citizenship for people.” (*San Diego City Beat [Interview](#)*, Nov. 30, 2011)

“We’ve got to crack down on employers who knowingly traffic in illegal immigration.” (Scott Peters for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“By the way, at the top end, the educated people, there’s something called the Staple Act, which is if someone gets a Ph.D. here, you staple their citizenship to their diploma so say stay here and create jobs here. That kind of approach makes a lot of sense to me, too. Why would we be kicking out people who came here to be educated and telling them to go start their company someplace else. It’s absurd.” (*San Diego City Beat [Interview](#)*, Nov. 30, 2011)

COLORADO

Sixth Congressional District

- MIKE COFFMAN (R) WINNER

Amnesty

“Comprehensive immigration reform must first begin with the comprehensive enforcement of our immigration laws. We must secure the borders of the United States now.” (Mike Coffman for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

DREAM Act

“The Dream Act will be a nightmare for the American people. No doubt, we need immigration reform but the Dream Act is written far too broadly and it will only encourage more illegal immigration, promote chain migration, and will be a magnet for fraud.” (Rep. Mike Coffman [Press Release](#), Dec. 8, 2010)

- JOE MIKLOSI (D)

Amnesty

“We want immigration reform because the current system, the current status quo, just does not adhere to the American values that we have of family reunification, respect and dignity, as well as justice...One thing I keep coming back to is that the American values of justice, and accountability, and family reunification are at the heart of any reform measure we have to have. It breaks my heart to see so many families divided. And the current legislation that is being proposed mainly in the Senate but some in the House really go away from some of those core American values and I want to make sure that those pieces of legislation are defeated...On one hand we say don't you dare come here illegally, but on the other hand we say if you are here, we are going to exploit you and your labor. And that again goes against our core American values. We need to have a change in the system and we need to have that at the federal level as well at the state and I am going to continue to be a champion for that.” (Joe Miklosi Speech, [YouTube](#), Feb. 14, 2011)

Dream Act

“I sponsored the DREAM Act in the Colorado House of Representatives and I've worked to reduce the cost and increase access to higher education to all Coloradans.” ([Daily Kos](#), June 20, 2012)

“But what gets me at my core also is the kids. The kids have been here for decades. They have paid gas tax, sales tax, property tax. They want a chance to go to college at an in-state rate. Those are the issues close to my heart that I am continuing to champion.” (Joe Miklosi Speech, [YouTube](#), Feb. 14, 2011)

CONNECTICUT

Fifth Congressional District

- ANDREW RORABACK (R)

DREAM Act/In-State Tuition for Illegal Aliens

“I did vote against the DREAM Act in Connecticut...It wasn’t an easy decision for me because I recognize these young people did nothing wrong themselves. They were brought here by their parents at young ages. But, I also recognize that if we’re gonna give the spot at the University of Connecticut to someone who brought their children here in violation of our Rule of Law, that spot will be a spot not available to a law-abiding, taxpaying, Connecticut family that has played by the rules with the expectation that our public universities would be available to meet their children’s needs...We need comprehensive immigration reform to give these young people a more legitimate status in our society. Piecemeal efforts at the state-level are a way to dodge the national debate. I am ready to jump into the national debate to give these young people a status which will enable them to get a job when they graduate from college...” (Torrington Debate at 53:40, [YouTube](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

“In the long run, I believe [in-state tuition for illegal aliens] decreases pressure on Washington to afford these young people all of the rights of citizenship. When we do that, it lets the federal legislators off the hook. We should all be demanding that our federal legislators give some real and permanent status to these young people who are here through no fault of their own. I believe these young people should be able to vote, have a driver's license and hold elected office, but none of that will happen at the state level.” ([Newstimes.com](#), May 31, 2011)

Illegal Alien Voting

“If the Rule of Law means anything in this country, it means that you don’t reward people who break the law by giving to them the most precious right that Americans enjoy. It just turns the Constitution on its head and offends really every bone in my body that we should even contemplate this kind of reward.” ([“On the Record” with Greta Van Susteren](#), Dec. 16, 2011)

“No right is more cherished and more valued than the right to vote, and for us even contemplating extending that right to people who have come to this country unlawfully, is un-American, unpatriotic and unacceptable.” ([CBS News](#), Dec. 14, 2011)

- ELIZABETH ESTY (D) WINNER

DREAM Act/Amnesty

“I do support the DREAM Act and proudly so...I am strongly committed to supporting the DREAM Act at the national level because we’ve invested in these young people who have really basically spent their whole lives in this country. Now we need to have comprehensive immigration reform—it

is important that everyone follow the law, that we [] secure the borders, that we hold businesses accountable, and that people play by the rules and get at the back of the line and earn their way to citizenship and pay into the system...I think it is good for this country and that it is the right thing to do.” (Torrington Debate at 53:40, [YouTube](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

FLORIDA

Eighteenth Congressional District

- ALLEN WEST (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“I can start to ask questions about what is going to happen as far as their right to vote. Is this one of those backdoor opportunities to allow people in the next five months to get the opportunity to vote? Will we see Janet Napolitano and the President come out with a new edict that says ‘since we allow this people to be here legally, we’re now going to allow them to have the opportunity to vote?’...Why is it being done at this point in time? Why have we not allowed a national debate on this issue to really get a sense about what the American people feel?” (FOX News [Interview](#), June 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“Illegal immigrants should not be rewarded for breaking our laws. This is why I oppose giving amnesty to the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants in our country.” (Treasure Coast Palm [Questionnaire](#), 2012)

Border Security

“I believe immigration policy should exist first and foremost to protect American citizens rather than accommodate foreigners and their families. We must have an immigration policy that addresses the realities we currently face, including those who are already here and those who wish to come. But our priority must be controlling our borders before any immigration policy can be seriously considered.” (Allen West for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

“Our first priority should be to secure the borders. For any immigration reform to work, we must have a secure border, we must know who is crossing our borders and how long they are staying in our country.” (Treasure Coast Palm [Questionnaire](#), 2012)

“You’ve got a war going on south of our border. Beheadings. Mass killings. Mexico is starting to resemble Iraq and Afghanistan. And if we don’t secure the borders and enforce our laws, if we do not make employment verification mandatory all across this country, we will never be serious about tackling the immigration problems we have.” (Sun Sentinel [Interview](#), January 27, 2011)

DREAM Act

“You’ve got to enforce the law. Before considering the DREAM Act [] or any of this other pie-in-the-sky stuff, you’ve got to do those things.” (Sun Sentinel [Interview](#), January 27, 2011)

E-Verify

“I think that our state [Florida] legislature missed the boat not making E-Verify mandatory in the State of Florida.” (Rep. Allen West Speech, [YouTube](#), June 7, 2011)

Guest Workers

“I support reforming the H1-A (sic) visa program to ensure the farmers of the Treasure Coast have access to the labor they need to produce their products.” (*Treasure Coast Palm Questionnaire*, 2012)

Illegal Immigration

“The Constitution of the United States of America has these three mandates; ensure domestic tranquility, promote the general welfare, and provide for the common defense. All three of these directives relate to the issue of illegal immigration, as illegal immigration adversely affects our economy, jobs, national security, crime levels, education, and healthcare. Illegal immigration also allows human traffickers, drug runners, and Islamic terrorists to exploiting (sic) our porous border.” (Rep. Allen West Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

“I think that illegal immigration – the operative word is ‘illegal’. It also says here in Article 1 Section 8 that you have to repel invasions. I think that anytime someone is coming across your border and they haven’t been invited, that can be considered what the founding fathers wrote as an invasion into your country.” (*Scripps Treasure Coast Editorial Board Interview*, Nov. 28, 2011)

“We're not against immigration, but it is illegal immigration--it is affecting this country. It's affecting this country....It's affecting our national security....It's affecting our health care system. It's affecting our education system. It's affecting our economy. And it's affecting our local criminality. You talk to a lot of these law enforcement officers in and around this area. It is really not doing good things for us. So we have to tackle this situation called illegal immigration in the United States of America. And I'll tell you--both sides don't want to deal with it. One side wants to have a new class of voters. The other side wants cheap labor for their buddies. And if we continue to have folks who want to protect their rice bowls, the exact same thing that happened with Rome is going to happen to the United States.” (Rep. Allen West Speech, [YouTube](#), June 7, 2011)

• PATRICK MURPHY (D)

Amnesty

“I believe undocumented workers that have otherwise observed our laws should be given a reasonable path to legality. This is a policy that historically was supported by Presidents Reagan, Bush, Clinton, and Obama - all of whom have proposed ideas as to how to accomplish this.” (Patrick Murphy for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I do not support amnesty, but believe both sides must work together to create a pathway to citizenship for those already in this country.” (*Treasure Coast Palm Questionnaire*, 2012)

Border Security

“We must absolutely secure our borders. We have the technology and manpower to do a much better job than we are currently doing.” (Patrick Murphy for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I strongly support the DREAM act which opens a path of legality to students who have graduated from US high schools and attend college or join the military. Not only is this fair, it will provide our college system with greatly needed additional revenue and our military with a much needed infusion of eager and motivated soldiers.” (Patrick Murphy for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I [] support the bipartisan version of the Dream Act that allows minor children of illegal immigrants to become citizens if they agree to attend college or complete military service – similar to the executive order President Obama put forth.” (*Treasure Coast Palm* [Questionnaire](#), 2012)

FLORIDA

Twenty-Second Congressional District

- ADAM HASNER (R)
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Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“What do you do with those who came here by no fault of their own, are stuck without being able to have the American dream as a legal citizen? One thing about the DREAM Act that the President did is that he went around Congress, he went around the rules.” (Candidate Forum, [YouTube](#), Sept. 27, 2012)

“[President Obama’s] insistence on granting amnesty to the millions of illegal immigrants within our borders through so-called ‘earned citizenship’ sends the wrong message to those who followed the law to enter our country, and those who still seek to come to our country. It also all but ensures that immigration reform will once again remain unresolved in Washington.” ([Sunshine State News](#), May 13, 2011)

“If elected to [Congress], I will force a debate about our immigration system. I will oppose amnesty and any amnesty-like immigration measures, and I will insist that our country secure our borders and stem the flow of illegal immigration first and foremost.” ([The Florida Times-Union](#), May 5, 2012)

Border Security

“We must secure our border, we must not allow amnesty, we must do a better job at protecting our country, that begins right there on our southern border.” (Shark Tank [Blog](#), Mar. 1, 2011)

Immigration Reform

“It needs to be dealt with sequentially. The first thing we need to do is secure our borders and fix our broken legal immigration system. It’s not just that people come here across our borders, it’s that people who came here legally are overstaying the time that we’ve allowed them to stay. Once we’re able to secure our borders and fix a broken system, that’s when we’ll restore trust

with the American people to be able to deal with some of the more pressing problems.” (Candidate Forum, [YouTube](#), Sept. 27, 2012)

“Republicans who over-promised and failed to deliver on common-sense solutions were a big part of the GOP’s losses in 2006 and 2008. Too often, Republicans focus solely on the economics of immigration, when in reality, immigration reform is more than just an economic issue; it is a national security and moral issue. If we cannot enforce our laws, and create an immigration system that encourages the lawful over lawbreakers, we will make it harder to preserve the integrity of our own system of government for future generations.” ([Sunshine State News](#), May 13, 2011)

• LOIS FRANKEL (D) WINNER

Amnesty/DREAM Act

“I believe that we should have a fair humane way that undocumented immigrants, especially children, to either get at least a legal status and in many cases U.S. citizenship. I will approve the DREAM Act. I hope that we can find a way for the Congress to come together and to deal with this issue.” (Candidate Forum, [YouTube](#), Sept. 27, 2012)

FLORIDA

Twenty-Sixth Congressional District

• DAVID RIVERA (R)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“Congressman Rivera acknowledges that granting deferred deportation action for childhood arrivals does not signal a permanent solution for these young people, and that there is a need to address and take action on the issue of immigration reform. He believes that this needs to be a deliberative process to implement permanent solutions.” (Rep. David Rivera Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“Thousands of undocumented young people deserve a chance at life in America, particularly those who want to serve in the military or to seek higher education. President Obama’s announcement is nothing more than a political move in the form of a temporary election year band aid to cover up his failure to lead on the issue of immigration reform in the 112th Congress. Going forward, I will continue to focus my immigration reform efforts on permanent solutions, like the STARS and ARMS Acts, for these deserving young people.” (Rep. David Rivera [Press Release](#), Jun. 29, 2012)

Border Security

“David believes that stopping illegal immigration starts by controlling our borders and strengthening existing penalties for people entering the country illegally.” (Rep. David Rivera for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I care deeply about preserving our nation’s sovereignty, protecting our citizens, and pursuing a just solution to the immigration issues our country faces. I believe that increased border security is necessary to enhance the safety of Americans, especially near the United States-Mexico border. I support immigration into our country if it is through legal means. I will continue to do all I can so that the federal government keeps its commitment to the fair and equitable treatment of immigrants while at the same time ensuring the safety of Americans.” (Rep. David Rivera Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Employment of Illegal Aliens

“There are also many businesses that subsist on the work of illegal immigrants and David believes that the federal government must enact harsh penalties against employers that hire illegal immigrants.” (David Rivera for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

DREAM Act

“Congressman Rivera has introduced two pieces of legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to help undocumented young people who meet certain criteria earn legal status in the United States and achieve the American dream. The Studying Towards Adjusted Residency Status (STARS) Act (*HR 5869*) would allow undocumented students to focus on completing their university education, and upon graduation work towards achieving permanent residency status. The Adjusted Residency for Military Service (ARMS) Act (*HR 3823*) would give undocumented young people who have a desire to serve in America’s Armed Forces the opportunity to achieve that goal and work towards achieving permanent residency status.” (Rep. David Rivera Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“Currently, long-term United States residents who entered this country as children, and who do not have a legal status, cannot enlist in the United States military. The Adjusted Residency for Military Service, or ARMS, Act would give them the opportunity to serve in the United States Armed Forces and earn legal status in America. However, the ARMS Act does not ensure automatic residency. Applicants would need to meet a set of preliminary criteria to be considered for the program, and once accepted, demonstrate good moral conduct and a record of service in the United States military to then be eligible for legal status. Likewise, if the applicant does not meet necessary criteria, their conditional non-immigrant status will be revoked. This bill provides an opportunity for young people who have established long-standing ties in the United States, and who have a desire to serve our country, to fulfill their goals of serving in the military and achieving the American dream. If these young people are willing to die for America, then certainly they deserve a chance at life in America.” (Rep. David Rivera [Press Release](#), Jan. 26, 2012)

DREAM Act

“Joe has stood for children in our community by supporting the DREAM Act. Young adults who were brought here at a young age at no fault of their own shouldn’t be punished for decisions they weren’t a part of. These are among the most hardworking students who grew up as Americans, and have the potential to contribute positively to our economy and our society. Educated young adults, regardless of their heritage or place of birth, strengthen our country, and deporting them would only result in a voluntary brain drain of our nation.” (Joe Garcia for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Immigration Reform

"Immigration reform is a serious issue that calls for immediate action....We need our elected officials to show leadership, not hide and remain silent when difficult problems and issues arise. I have been proud to stand with supporters of immigration reform, march with them and let my position be known on a difficult issue. I am disappointed Rivera has chosen to be silent on immigration reform." ([Miami Herald](#), May 10, 2012)

“Joe supports a strategy that emphasizes the promotion of human rights, economic prosperity, and tough measures against drug trafficking and terrorism throughout the Americas.” (Joe Garcia for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

ILLINOIS

Second Congressional District

- BRIAN WOODWORTH (R)

Amnesty

“[W]e must realize that immigrants whose only illegal act is remaining in the country without permission are still committing a crime. However, if an illegal immigrant has no other history of criminal activity, there should be a pathway to citizenship provided, through first payment of a criminal fine for remaining in the country without permission. After paying the fine, the pathway to citizenship would open to them.” ([ABC 7 News Chicago](#), 2012)

Guest Workers

“I believe that a system that could provide an opportunity for them to get a license to come and work legally and earn some money while doing jobs that in many cases Americans don’t want to do. They’re looking for the higher paying jobs and we have people who are willing to work the fields. Let’s give ‘em that opportunity.” ([ABC 7 Chicago](#), [YouTube](#), Mar. 5, 2012)

Immigration Enforcement

“Enforcement-only policies do not take advantage of the services that many of illegal immigrants provide. We need an immigration policy that introduces different levels of access based on reason; a policy that allows migrant workers legal authorization to work temporarily in the U.S., without an excess of registration or implementation costs. We need to streamline our immigration system that encourages law-abiding immigrant families to seek access to citizenship, and likewise encourages others into compliance with our immigration laws. However, we also need to have a policy that closes our borders to illegal trafficking, and strong enforcement against foreign individuals that insist on violating our laws. We need stronger border controls, use of an e-verify system, and allow domestic enforcement.” ([ABC 7 News Chicago](#), 2012)

- JESSE JACKSON JR. (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“I support comprehensive legislation that keeps families together, protects workers, gives clear guidelines to business and allows a rational and fair pathway to citizenship for those who have stayed out of trouble with the law and earned it. If we raised living standards in developing nations we would have fewer immigration worker problems and more tourism economic opportunities. I support a comprehensive approach to resolving the immigration issue. Except for slavery, we’re a nation of immigrants and like immigrants past they want what virtually all Americans want: to raise strong families, build safe communities, practice their faith in freedom and seek new and better opportunities for their children. We need a 21st century immigration system to regulate a 21st century labor force, a system of legal immigration that employers and immigrants can use to control

who comes and who's here. It should honor and keep families together and provide a legal path for earning one's way to citizenship in a reasonable time: by learning our language; remaining crime free; paying a fee; having clear laws enforced evenly that makes everyone accountable - employers, citizens, immigrants and law enforcement. I also support the Dream Act.” (*Chicago Tribune Questionnaire*, 2012)

DREAM Act

“The DREAM Act extends the possibility of the American dream to students, college graduates and military personnel who have earned the right to be called Americans. It is a rigorous, difficult path to citizenship for those who are the best and the brightest, who any of us would be proud to call friends, neighbors and countrymen.... The DREAM Act is both good for our economy and the morally correct policy. This bill is not an amnesty bill. It is an earned citizenship bill....” (Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. [Press Release](#), Dec. 8, 2010)

IOWA

Fourth Congressional District

- STEVE KING (R) WINNER
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Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“Americans should be outraged that President Obama is planning to usurp the Constitutional authority of the United States Congress and grant amnesty by edict to 1 million illegal aliens. There is no ambiguity in Congress about whether the DREAM Act's amnesty program should be the law of the land. It has been rejected by Congress, and yet President Obama has decided that he will move forward with it anyway. The American people have rejected amnesty because it will erode the Rule of Law. In much the same way, I believe the American people will reject President Obama for his repeated efforts to violate the Constitutional separation of powers.” (Rep. Steve King [Press Release](#), June 15, 2012)

Amnesty

“I am adamantly against amnesty, which is to pardon immigration lawbreakers and reward them with the object of their crime. A pathway to citizenship does exactly that. [The] mere discussion of granting citizenship to those who have rejected the Rule of Law by entering our country illegally only encourages more illegal immigration.” (Steve King for Congress Campaign [Website](#), June 14, 2012)

“I adamantly oppose amnesty, regardless of the guise under which it is presented. Amnesty pardons immigration lawbreakers and rewards them with the objective of their crime—citizenship. I believe we must tighten and strengthen our border control efforts. I have traveled to the southern border and have seen the unprotected areas that allow the free flow of illegal immigrants into our country. Allowing illegal immigration to flourish is a threat to our national security.” (Rep. Steve King Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 24, 2012)

Birthright Citizenship

“I do not believe it is in the best interest of our nation to continue tolerating the practice of illegal aliens giving birth to children in the U.S. in order to obtain citizenship for the child, then moving back to their country of origin with the hopes of achieving uninhibited access to our country for as many family members as possible. This is why I have introduced H.R. 140, the Birthright Citizenship Act of 2011, to limit birthright citizenship to a child born in the United States to at least one parent who is a U.S. citizen or national, a legal permanent resident living in the United States, or an individual who is serving on active duty status in the U.S. Armed Forces.” (Rep. Steve King Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 24, 2012)

Border Security

“We must enforce the laws already on the books, which includes completeing (sic) the border fence along our southern border. In 2006, funding was authorized to complete 854 miles of two-layered reinforced fencing. To date, only 346 miles of pedestrian fencing, 298 miles of vehicle fencing and 34

miles of secondary fencing has been completed.” (Steve King for Congress Campaign [Website](#), June 14, 2012)

DREAM Act

“It’s suspending the rule of law and rewarding people for breaking the law...And when you back up and grant amnesty and you reward people for that, then you’ve just promised there’ll be another amnesty.” (Rep. Steve King on *Fox News*, [YouTube](#), Dec. 11, 2010)

“The immigration laws of this country have been ignored by millions of illegal aliens. I don’t believe in rewarding lawbreakers with a path to citizenship. While I do have sympathy for those who may have come to this country illegally with their parents when they broke the law, our country cannot afford to make concessions in immigration policy. The Rule of Law is a much higher priority. First we must secure our borders, shut off the jobs and benefits magnets that attract illegal aliens to the U.S., and enforce the immigration laws that are already on the books.” (Rep. Steve King [Press Release](#), May 31, 2012)

• CHRISTIE VILSACK (D)

Amnesty

“[P]eople who are felons should be deported. It is impractical to deport twelve or thirteen million people. So I think people need to go to the back of the line. They need to pay a fine if they have done something wrong, which they have if they have come here illegally. They need to learn the language. They need to show that they want to be a part of this country but they need to go to the back of the line and move forward. But I think there needs to be a pathway to becoming an American citizen.” ([Iowa Public Television](#), June 8, 2012)

Border Security

“[W]e need to secure the borders and we have done a pretty good job of that.” ([Iowa Public Television](#), June 8, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I support the DREAM Act.” ([Iowa Public Television](#), June 8, 2012)

MICHIGAN

Eleventh Congressional District

- KERRY BENTIVOLIO (R) **WINNER**

Amnesty

“We should offer no amnesty to illegal immigrants, which amounts to condoning illegality. Crucially, no taxpayer-funded programs should be available to non-citizens. It is immoral that American citizens are compelled to subsidize welfare for non-citizens, and it is this incentive most of all that encourages people to come here illegally.” (Kerry Bentivolio for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 23, 2012)

Border Security

“Any immigration reform must begin with securing the border and stopping the flow of those who are coming into this country illegally. A nation must be able to secure its borders if it is to be protected against those who want to do it harm. This is especially true in the age of terrorism. The threats of cross-border criminal organizations are real and even without such threats, the lack of respect for our laws from those entering illegally is not acceptable.” (Kerry Bentivolio for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 23, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“We should allow *legal* immigration to the degree that our security is not compromised. More citizens means more productive members of society, more producers, more consumers, more competition. That is a healthy thing. It means more people from other countries discovering our tremendous prosperity brought on by our tradition of freedom, and spreading the message to those back home. This too is a healthy thing.” (Kerry Bentivolio for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 23, 2012)

“I support student visas and work visas obtained through proper legal process. I would not oppose an increase in student and work visas as long as illegal immigration were curtailed. People who are already here should be able to petition for work or student visas but none should be necessarily guaranteed.” ([League of Women Voters](#), Oct. 24, 2012)

- SYED TAJ (D)

Border Security

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is the nation’s first line of defense against people who seek to enter our country illegally. In Congress, I’ll make sure the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees CBP, is properly funded to meet today’s needs. We must make sure that the violence from drug trafficking and cartels in Mexico does not spill across our border. We need more border agents where there is the greatest demand along the southern border with Mexico. We also need strategic

partnerships between our federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies and a more streamlined method of communication. (Syed Taj for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 22, 2012)

DREAM Act/Legal Immigration

“In Congress I will advocate a coherent federal immigration policy, one of securing our borders, establishing a policy toward illegal immigrants, and an organized method for attaining citizenship.

We can begin by:

- Establishing a path to citizenship for immigrants already in this country by passing the DREAM Act.
- Retaining talented and entrepreneurial students who graduate from our universities to live, work and flourish right here in this country. Students from all over the world come to America study at our universities and when their visas run out, they may be forced to return home even if they don't want to. We are sending engineers, doctors, lawyers, and other skilled professionals back to their home countries where they can turn around and compete against us in the global marketplace.
- Making the immigration process more efficient by cutting red tape. I have seen families separated by unnecessary delays in processing paperwork – passing people off from agency to agency. We have a moral obligation to make sure the family unit is preserved.”

(Syed Taj for Congress Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 22, 2012)

MINNESOTA

Eighth Congressional District

- CHIP CRAVAACK (R)

Border Security / Legal Immigration

“It is the federal government’s job to keep its international borders secure and control the flow of non-citizens who are in the country on a temporary or permanent basis. This is no easy task with a country so large. However, there is no excuse for the porous borders and ineffective immigration process that exists today. Congress and the Administration share equal blame for our current situation. It is my intention to work with members of both parties and administration officials to streamline the immigration process and secure the borders.” (Chip Cravaack Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Immigration Enforcement

To protect innocent citizens from criminal illegal aliens, I firmly believe we need to enforce our immigration laws, especially Section 236(c) that mandates the detention of dangerous, criminal illegal aliens. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment to prohibit taxpayer funds from being used in violation of Section 236(c).” (Floor Speech [Press Release](#), June 2, 2011)

State and Local Enforcement

“Additionally, local law enforcement personnel have been forced to play such a big role in securing the border and dealing with illegal aliens who break the law. They have neither the resources nor the time to take on this enormous task. We must do our job and relieve the burden on local and state officials. Our citizens demand and deserve no less.” (Chip Cravaack Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

- RICK NOLAN (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“We have to find a path forward for citizenship for all the illegal immigrants who are here now.” (*The Uptake*, [Debate](#), Aug. 6, 2012)

DREAM Act/Legal Immigration

“I support the DREAM act, a formal guest worker program to respond to the need we have for temporary unskilled labor, a path to citizenship for those who seek to build a future in our nation, and an increase in efforts to retain the best and brightest foreign students in our universities.” (Minnesota Public Radio [Questionnaire](#), 2012)

Employment of Illegal Aliens

“[We] have to do something about the massive flow of immigrants. As the owner of a palette factory I can tell you, you can go into many palette factories around the country, if you announce that you are from the Immigration and Naturalization Services, people will be flying out the doors and the windows and the fact is, is that a lot of these illegal immigrants have been used to drive down labor wages. They've been used to combat collective bargaining rights that have strengthened wages and benefits, so we need to find a way to get control of this. And there is a way, I mean, the immigrants who come here, they come here for the jobs, and if you want to really fix this problem, you don't have to build a big fence at your border, you just have to put some really strong penalties against the employers who hire the illegal immigrants, and then you'll fix the problem.” (*The Uptake, Debate*, Aug. 6, 2012)

NEVADA

Third Congressional District

- JOE HECK (R) WINNER
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287(g) Program/State and Local Enforcement

“Undocumented workers who commit crimes in the United States need to be punished and returned to their home nations. The 287(g) program allowing local law enforcement to determine what criminals are here illegally is a step in the right direction. Clark County law enforcement’s enrollment in the 287(g) program with the federal government is encouraging and we need to expand such coordinated efforts throughout the country to help take the financial and structural burden off local governments.” (Rep. Joe Heck Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Amnesty

“I am working to stem the flow of illegal immigration, and I will not support an amnesty policy to address this issue.” (Rep. Joe Heck Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Border Security

“First, we must secure our borders. Closing down the borders, north-south ports of entry, to illegal immigration will pave the way for further immigration system improvements.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“Our nation’s border security is a key issue when addressing both our economic and national security interests. I feel strongly that a comprehensive border security plan is paramount to rebuilding our nation’s economy as well as protecting our nation’s security. The lack of secure borders doesn’t simply allow illegal immigration to flourish; the federal government’s failure allows drugs, guns, terrorists or any number of dangerous entities to enter our nation undetected. Traditional methods of protecting our borders must evolve, using new technologies and more aggressive border patrol practices. We must ensure that our efforts include both the northern and southern border, as well as our points of entry.” (Rep. Joe Heck Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Dream Act

“The idea that young children who were brought to America illegally should be given access to opportunities in this country is a noble one. However, I believe that there are problems with the Dream Act as it is currently written that prohibit it from positively affecting its intended demographic. First, in its current form, the Dream Act would extend benefits to individuals who are up to 35 years old. If the bill is designed to help young students, then young students should be the focus of the bill. It also only requires two years of college or military service for individuals to benefit. However, it does not state that the individuals must obtain a degree or certificate or receive an honorable discharge from the military after a full enlistment, which lasts three to four years. If we are going to be giving individuals the benefits of legal residency, the goal must be that we ensure they are fully prepared for the competitive global job market or civilian life after college or military service. In its

current form, I believe that the Dream Act falls short of that goal.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

E-Verify

“[W]e must eliminate incentives for individuals to come here illegally. The most obvious incentive is the chance to find employment. Instituting a comprehensive, reliable, mandatory E-Verify system would be the best way to do that. This will not only ensure that American companies are employing legal residents, but also provide protection against worker exploitation.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“I have serious concerns with the potential for employers to hire illegal immigrants to do jobs that American citizens could be doing.” (Joe Heck Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Illegal Immigration

“Illegal immigration is a serious problem in the United States, and the number of illegal immigrants is rapidly increasing each year. The unlawful entry of these individuals into the U.S. not only puts severe strain on state and local budgets, but also limits the ability of federal programs designed to support American citizens.” (Rep. Joe Heck Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 16, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“There is a major need to overhaul our immigration system in this country. When people who wish to immigrate to our country have to wait for years to receive a visa and then, after receiving citizenship or permanent legal resident status, have to wait up to 10 years or more to bring their family to America, clearly we have a problem.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“Next, we need to establish a modern, sustainable guest worker program.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“Finally, we must improve the procedures that allow individuals to become legal citizens of the United States. It should not take years for someone to go through the process if they have done everything right in trying to become a citizen. These common sense measures will return America to its roots of being a nation that thrives when immigrants come here legally.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

• JOHN OCEGUERA (D)

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“The deferred action program is a clear step towards finding a tough, fair and practical solution for young immigrant children to get an education, serve in our military, and go on to be a vibrant part of America. Moving forward, we need to implement common-sense solutions. In Congress, I will support the Dream Act and continue to work with an open mind on helping immigrant children who want to serve in our military or join our educated workforce find a way to stay here legally. The

Obama administration has increased yearly deportation rates and nearly half of all deportees in 2011 have been convicted of a crime.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“I think we need a tough, fair and practical approach to this issue. I think the Obama administration has taken us in the right direction, and in Congress I will work on a comprehensive approach to immigration reform that includes background checks to ensure our national security.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“Congress has failed to secure our borders or take on immigration reform. I support an approach to immigration that is tough, fair and practical. The policy announced today is a clear step towards finding a tough, fair and practical solution for young immigrant children to get an education, serve in our military, and go on to be a vibrant part of America.” (John Ocegüera for Congress Campaign [Press Release](#), June 15, 2012)

Arizona’s SB 1070

“I do not support the remaining provision from the Arizona law. We must have an immigration system in America that protects our national security while recognizing the enormous contributions immigrants have made and continue to make to our nation.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

“While I am encouraged the Supreme Court has struck down key provisions of Arizona's immigration law, the ruling makes it very clear Joe Heck and his colleagues in Congress are not doing their job. Our immigration laws should be tough, practical and reflect the values we share and our nation was founded upon. The practical impacts of the remaining provision of the Arizona law are the most concerning. We must have an immigration system in America that protects our national security while recognizing the enormous contributions immigrants have made and continue to make to our nation.” (John Ocegüera for Congress campaign [Press Release](#), June 25, 2012)

Birthright Citizenship

“I strongly support birthright citizenship, a right guaranteed in the 14th Amendment. My opponent, on the other hand, has embraced the immigration agenda of the Tea Party — even going so far as to suggest amending the U.S. Constitution to change birthright citizenship.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I support the Dream Act because it is consistent with a policy reflecting we’re a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants. If someone wants to serve in our military or go to school and become part of our educated workforce, we should help find a way for them to stay here legally.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

Employment of Illegal Aliens

“Part of the comprehensive solution to this challenge is cracking down on employers who hire undocumented workers. I will go to Congress with an open mind and work together to find the best strategies to enforce our laws.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“We need to capitalize on the students graduating from our education system here in America. I will work to keep those bright students in this country, so they can be a part of our educated workforce, create jobs, and make us more globally competitive.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

Secure Communities

“I agree with the stated goal of the Secure Communities initiative, and have said that part of our comprehensive approach to immigration reform is conducting background checks to protect our security. I have concerns over the implementation of this initiative, and would want to work on this issue in a bipartisan fashion in Congress to find practical solutions moving forward.” (*Las Vegas Sun* [Questionnaire](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

NEVADA

Fourth Congressional District

- DANNY TARKANIAN (R)

Administrative Amnesty/ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“I certainly don't agree with it because it wasn't passed in Congress...Why did [Obama] wait until just before the election to do this political stunt? [He] is just using this as a political football.” (*Las Vegas Review-Journal*, July 18, 2012)

Amnesty

“Even mere talk of amnesty is irresponsible because it encourages illegal immigration.” (*Las Vegas Sun*, Oct. 11, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

“I do not support illegal immigrants having access to taxpayer benefits. Our taxpayers are already burdened enough with having to fund those services for citizens of this country. They do not need to additionally support those who are here illegally.” (*Las Vegas Sun*, Oct. 11, 2012)

Border Security

“I am in favor of all preventative methods for strengthening our borders. This is a necessary and vital step for stopping the flow of illegal immigrants into our country.” (*Las Vegas Sun*, Oct. 11, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I believe that anyone who is willing to put on the uniform in service of our country deserves a path to citizenship. However, I do not support the idea that simply attending school here entitles individuals to that same option.” (*Las Vegas Sun*, Oct. 11, 2012)

“Anybody who comes in and wants to provide military service should have a path to citizenship,” Tarkanian said. “But the college students — I don’t believe I would extend it that far. But I would be open to more dialogue of other types of services.” ([Las Vegas Sun](#), Oct. 18, 2012)

Illegal Immigration

“The federal government’s sole responsibility is to protect the citizens of The United States. In continuing to allow the flow of illegal aliens into the U.S. we are eroding not only our economy and our infrastructure, but the rule of law. Without the rule of law we have no ability to protect our citizens whatsoever. It is our nation’s greatest imperative that we secure our border immediately and forever. It is equally important that if we are to fund the educations of disadvantaged citizens, that we begin with our own citizens. As our economic struggles continue, it is our own citizens in urban and rural areas alike who most deserve access to our nation’s resources. Perhaps the most sensible argument against illegal immigration is an economic one, but the most patriotic argument can be found in our nation’s laws and in the very protections that we are duty bound to defend in the name of freedom and liberty.” (Danny Tarkanian for Congress Campaign [Website](#), July 6, 2012)

Legal Immigration

“Why don’t we make it easier for people to come into this country legally?” ([Las Vegas Review-Journal](#), July 18, 2012)

• STEVEN HORSFORD (D) WINNER

Amnesty

“We have to come together with President Obama to create a comprehensive reform package that includes a fair pathway to citizenship, secures our borders, protects workers, and helps strengthen America’s economy. We can’t have a dialogue filled with anti-immigrant rhetoric. We need real solutions.” ([Las Vegas Sun](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

Arizona SB 1070

“I’m pleased that the Supreme Court struck down parts of Arizona’s misguided anti-immigration law. But I’m disappointed they upheld the most discriminatory part of the law. The fact is our immigration system is completely broken and Congress needs to stop the petty politics and get to work passing comprehensive immigration reform.” ([KTNV](#), June 25, 2012)

Benefits for Illegal Aliens

“My opponent has previously backed ‘self-deportation’ and has essentially supported making life so miserable for undocumented immigrants that they have no option but to leave our country. That is neither a humane nor effective policy, and I believe we should secure our borders and pass fair immigration reform, not focus on making the day-to-day lives of undocumented immigrants unbearable.” ([Las Vegas Sun](#), Oct. 11, 2012)

DREAM Act

“This is the human rights issue of our time; this is the civil rights issue of our time. I support the Dream Act because it's the right thing to do. I don't need a poll, and I don't need a pulse. ... It's like women's rights; it's like civil rights during the '60s. These kids, they graduate from high school and they want to do what — go to college and work ... we should help them.” ([Las Vegas Sun](#), Oct. 18, 2012)

OHIO

Sixteenth Congressional District

- JIM RENACCI (R) WINNER

Amnesty

“I am 100% opposed to amnesty for illegal immigrants. The U.S. government should never be in the practice of issuing any form of legal benefits to those whose first act in our country is violating our federal laws.” (Jim Renacci for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Employment of Illegal Aliens

“Put the liability on who’s causing the problem.” ([The Suburbanite](#), May 4, 2011)

- BETTY SUTTON (D)

Border Security

“With her support, the House passed legislation in August 2010 that is now law, to support the Border Patrol, security fencing, and needed infrastructure and technology. She also joined her colleagues in the Ohio delegation in supporting the Ohio Northern Border Initiative, which works to secure the Lake Erie maritime border.” (Rep. Betty Sutton Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

TEXAS

Twenty-Third Congressional District

- FRANCISCO CANSECO (R)

Amnesty

“For those who wish to come to our country to seek a better life and make America their home, they must do so by obeying our laws and complying with our rules. Amnesty is simply NOT AN OPTION.” (Francisco Canseco for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Border Security

“America is a nation of laws, and we are also a nation under siege from fanatics who want to harm civilians and do as much damage to our communities as possible. Our commitment to homeland security starts with: controlling who comes into our country, protecting our borders, ports, airways, and having top notch intelligence and law enforcement capable of stopping those who want to do us harm BEFORE they can attack on American soil again.” (Francisco Canseco for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I firmly believe that securing our nation’s borders is paramount to the safety and security of the United States and its citizens. As the violence in Mexico continues to spill over into the United States, protecting the American people is my highest priority and [the House Homeland Security Appropriations] bill provides the resources needed to do just that.” (Rep. Francisco Canseco [Press Release](#), June 8, 2012)

Criminal Aliens

Beyond the threat of terrorism, our security is also threatened by illegal immigrant gangs, drug cartels, and human smugglers. We must make it a top priority to provide the funding, equipment, and personnel necessary to identify, apprehend, and incarcerate or deport these criminals. It will send a message that we are serious and we are coming after them.” (Francisco Canseco for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

- PETE GALLEG0 (D) WINNER

Administrative Amnesty/Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

“Since extremists in Congress obstructed the passage of the DREAM Act, I support the deferred action policy that offers DREAM Act eligible youth, on a case-by-case basis, relief from deportation.” (Pete Gallego for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Amnesty

“[Immigration] [r]eform also should include an earned path to legalization for people who stay out of trouble, pay a penalty, pay back taxes, learn English and stand in line. We need to create an immigration system that makes America safer, that is realistic, and that makes economic sense.” (Pete Gallego for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

Border Security

“Our country is made up of immigrants who made the journey to the United States in search of the American dream. But we all know that our immigration system is broken. Making sure that our borders are secure is the most important aspect of immigration policy. Reform includes border security and putting the necessary boots on the ground to protect us from those who want to do our country harm.” (Pete Gallego for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

DREAM Act

“I also support the DREAM Act which would let young people who were brought to this country as children, graduated from high school and stayed out of trouble, earn a path to citizenship through military service or by going to college. I was proud to vote for the Texas DREAM Act, and I look forward to voting for the federal DREAM Act in Congress.” (Pete Gallego for House Campaign [Website](#), Oct. 17, 2012)

“I am very supportive of removing the threat of deportation from kids in particular and young adults who are going to college and contributing to the country’s well-being. It’s unfortunate that we have a member of Congress who won’t really participate meaningfully in that debate.” ([Dallas Morning News](#), June 21, 2012)

UTAH

Fourth Congressional District

- MIA LOVE (R)
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Amnesty

“If you commit a crime, it’s not okay, it’s never okay to commit a crime. We’ve got to make our policies a little bit better. We’ve got to make it so that we are supporting good behavior and punishing bad behavior. And to me, you have to understand that my parents came here legally. There are people that are standing in line, who are coming here, who want to be here and it’s not to me, it’s not right that people who have committed a crime get to stay when people who haven’t are working really hard to try to get into this country.” (West Jordan Town Hall, [YouTube](#), Mar. 29, 2012)

Border Security

“The best analogy I can think of is this boat. There’s this boat that’s got this big hole punched into it and the states are trying to do everything they can to bail out the water, but federal government has punched this big hole in this boat and as much as we try to bail out the water unless we actually secure our borders and do some things on a federal level, we’re going to continue to have this problem. This is a symptom of a lack of security on the borders. It’s a symptom, there are other symptoms...three things aren’t happening, we’re not securing our borders, we’re not tracking visas that are—we track visas that are coming in but we’re not tracking visas that are leaving...and three, we incentivize and reward bad behavior. We punish good behavior, which means it’s easier to be here illegally than it is to be here legally in this country.” (West Jordan Town Hall, [YouTube](#), Mar. 29, 2012)

“We’ve got to at least allow our border security agents to pursue on public land.” (West Jordan Town Hall, [YouTube](#), Mar. 29, 2012)

DREAM Act

“When you come here and you come here illegally, what are we saying? It’s okay to come here illegally and we’re going to be okay with what happens? If there’s a way that we can find for them to come through the right way, then that’s what should happen. That’s what are policies should be here. But what are we going to do if we say you’re here for long enough, that you’ve hid in the system long enough, there’s going to be a way to get through it. Again, I’m trying to figure out a way to incentivize and reward good behavior.” (West Jordan Town Hall, [YouTube](#), Mar. 29, 2012)

Entry-Exit System

“We’ve got to find a way to track visas in and leaving. And one of the solutions that I’ve found is what if we took a bond and put it on a visa, right, so that people that are coming in, they place a bond on that visa. When they leave, they collect a large portion of that bond back.” (West Jordan Town Hall, [YouTube](#), Mar. 29, 2012)

Border Security/Entry-Exit System

“Secure and well-managed borders are critical to our national defense and Matheson has always supported increased security initiatives, including hiring more border patrol personnel, improving transportation and cargo security, and developing a better entry/exit system to track foreign nationals. Additionally, he has advocated for the use of biometric identifiers and also to authorize members of the military, under certain circumstances and subject to specific conditions, to assist the Department of Homeland Security with border protection functions.” (Rep. Jim Matheson Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 25, 2012)

E-Verify

“Employers also have a responsibility to help combat illegal immigration. Matheson recognizes that many American businesses rely on immigrant workers and believes there should be accountability in the system to ensure that everyone plays by the same rules. He supports the provisions included in the Secure America through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act of 2009 which, among other things, mandated the use of the E-Verify program to check employment eligibility.” (Rep. Jim Matheson Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 25, 2012)

State and Local Enforcement

“Immigration is a topic that should be considered on a federal level, rather than creating a patchwork of state-by-state laws. Congressman Matheson believes that the federal government needs to do a better job of enforcing current law and strengthening it by providing additional resources for combating illegal immigration.” (Rep. Jim Matheson Congressional [Website](#), Oct. 25, 2012)