



FAIR Federation for American Immigration Reform

Immigration REPORT

OCTOBER 2008

Inside . . .

Lou Dobbs Hosts CNN
Broadcast from Feet to the
Fire

PAGE 3

California In-State Tuition
Policy Ruled
Unconstitutional

PAGE 4

Victims of Illegal Alien
Criminals Tell Their Stories

PAGE 5

Lobby Days Bring Activists
to Capital

PAGE 6

"We the People" Awards
Recognize Outstanding
Efforts

PAGE 7

Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008

*Political Leaders Get a Wake-Up Call: Americans Still
Want Real Immigration Reform*

T rue immigration reform — the kind that places the interests of the American people first — is a subject that many in the Washington power elite would prefer not to discuss. So, for the fourth time in the past five years, the people who talk to and with the American people on a daily basis came to Washington, en masse, to talk about immigration and how it impacts the lives of ordinary citizens.



CNN's Lou Dobbs accepts the People's Voice Award at FAIR reception.

CONTINUED on page 2

E-Verify Extension Puts Program at Huge Risk

E -Verify, the nation's essential worksite verification tool, has been extended for another six months only, putting its permanent fate in jeopardy. The program was set to expire at the end of November and needed to be reauthorized for another five years. While the House passed H.R. 6633 overwhelmingly by a 407-2 vote authorizing a five-year extension of the highly effective program the Senate instead

chose to bury E-Verify in a continuing budget resolution that lasts only until March 2009. This leaves E-Verify vulnerable to a new administration and a new Congress using it as a bargaining chip in attempts to pass amnesty for illegal aliens.

Put into place in 1996, E-Verify is a voluntary program run by DHS that uses an automated internet-based system to check every

CONTINUED on page 4

Feet to the Fire 2008 continued

Organized by the FAIR Congressional Task Force, an affiliate of FAIR, Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008 brought 40 talk show hosts from all across the United States to Washington on September 10 and 11 for a two-day event aimed at addressing immigration. In addition to the unprecedented number of talk radio hosts who participated in Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008, this year's event featured a live national television broadcast as Lou Dobbs' CNN program originated from the ballroom of the Phoenix Park Hotel.

The objective of Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008 was clear and straightforward: Real immigration reform remains a high priority with the American public that the next Congress and the next administration must address. In 2007, less than a month after Hold Their Feet to the Fire, talk radio and cable news demonstrated the influence they could wield as they publicized the backroom political deal that would have resulted in millions of illegal aliens being rewarded with amnesty. The American public learned about what the Senate amnesty and guest worker bill would do primarily through talk radio and cable news programs such as Dobbs', and resoundingly rejected it.

While Senators McCain and Obama, speaking before major ethnic interest conven-



FAIR President Dan Stein makes the rounds on Radio Row.



Lou Dobbs broadcasts his radio show live.



Oklahoma State Representative Randy Terrill delivers the message of true immigration reform.

tions over the summer, promised to reopen the debate about amnesty for millions of illegal aliens living in the U.S., Hold Their Feet to the Fire provided rebuttal time for ordinary Americans. For two days, the nation's radio airwaves were blanketed with discussions of what real immigration reform means to most Americans.

Dozens of immigration experts, dozens of members of Congress and other elected officials, economists, national security experts, and people whose lives have been harmed by America's failed immigration policies participated as guests on the 40 talk radio programs that originated their broadcasts from four ballrooms in the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill. In another radical departure from other discussions of immigration policy in Washington, the voices of ordinary citizens were included in Hold Their Feet to the Fire, as listeners were able to call-in to many of these programs.

Hold Their Feet to the Fire was not simply a media event, but a true grassroots effort to get the attention of leaders in Washington. Besides the 40 media personalities sitting at microphones in the Phoenix Park Hotel, some 200 committed immigration reform activists also descended upon the nation's capital to deliver the message to their elected representatives. FAIR activists joined with listeners of Hold Their Feet to the Fire's co-sponsor Roger Hedgecock to meet with hundreds of members of Congress and their staffs. Hedgecock hosts a popular talk radio program on KOGO radio in San Diego.

As has been the case in years past, the citizen lobbying visits that are an integral

Immigration REPORT

Board of Directors

Nancy Anthony	Douglas E. Caton	Roy Porter
Sharon Barnes	Pat Choate	Stephen Swensrud
Edith Blodgett	Donald A. Collins	John Tanton
Henry Buhl	Sarah G. Epstein	Alan Weeden

Staff

Dan Stein President	Julie Kirchner Executive Director	Ira Mehlman Senior Editor
------------------------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------

FAIR Immigration Report (ISSN 1049-3000) is published 10 times a year by the Federation for American Immigration Reform, a non-profit membership organization.

FAIR 326 Massachusetts Avenue, NW • Suite 330 • Washington, DC 20001
(202) 326-1804 • (202) 326-2447 (fax) • info@fairus.org • www.fairus.org

CONTINUED on the next page



Mayor Lou Barletta, Hazelton, Penn.



Representative Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)



Senator James Inhofe (R-Okla.)



Representative Brian Bilbray (R-Calif.)



Pat Buchanan

part of Hold Their Feet to the Fire serve as a reminder to members of Congress about who they actually work for and what their concerns and interests are when it comes to immigration policy. FAIR's government relations staff played a key role in making sure that, in conjunction with the discussion on the nation's radio airwaves, congressional offices heard the same sentiments from concerned citizens.

With 40 talk shows and CNN's Lou Dobbs Tonight all simultaneously broadcasting the message of true immigration reform, Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008 was an unqualified success. The momentum generated by this unprecedented event will allow the immigration reform movement to hit the ground running in 2009, and send a clear signal to the new Congress and administration that the American public will be watching what they do in Washington.

Special recognition for the success of Hold Their Feet to the Fire must go to Bob Dane, who served as the FAIR Congressional Task Force's principal organizer and coordinator of this event. Putting together an event of this size and complexity required months of planning and preparation, all of which was coordinated by Bob. The event also could not have succeeded without the technical wizardry of Steve Kirsch and his crew at Silver Lake Audio of Rockville Center, New York, who flawlessly got everyone on the air when they were supposed to be on, and coordinated simulcasts between several radio talk shows and CNN's Lou Dobbs Tonight program.

Live From Radio Row: CNN's Lou Dobbs Tonight

If there is one person in the media who is the acknowledged champion of ordinary citizens in the immigration debate, it is Lou Dobbs. Night after night on his highly rated CNN broadcast, Dobbs exposes the myriad ways in which the economic, social and security interests of middle class Americans are being sold-out by their leaders in Washington. And a staple of his relentless coverage of the "War on the Middle Class" is the deliberate use of immigration policy to undermine those interests.



During the week immediately after the Democratic and Republican national conventions, Dobbs devoted a weeklong series of programs to what he dubbed The Independent Convention. During that series of broadcasts, Dobbs' CNN program focused on forgotten issues that while of paramount importance to ordinary Americans, are being largely ignored by the two major parties and the narrow special interests they serve. One of those issues is, of course, real immigration reform.

Building on a longstanding relationship that the Lou Dobbs Tonight program has had with FAIR, the show's producers chose the

CONTINUED on the page 6

E-Verify *continued*

new employee's information against more than 500 million records in Social Security and DHS databases. It's fast, easy and free for businesses to use and it means that businesses don't have to be document experts. Over 70,000 employers are using it and 1,000 are joining every week. Nationwide, 1 in 10 new hires are screened using it and it is 99.5 accurate. Mississippi and Arizona now mandate use of E-Verify, and an executive order signed by President Bush earlier this year requires all contractors to use the system as a condition of doing business with the federal government. The program is a huge success and it would seem that Congress would be anxious not only to reauthorize the E-Verify program, but to expand it and make its use mandatory for all employers.

The major stumbling block to its passage in the Senate was Senator Robert Menendez (D-N.J.) who refused to let it pass unless he was allowed to add hundreds of thousands of new green cards that would flood the U.S. workplace with wage-suppressing foreign labor. Holding the reauthorization of E-Verify — a program designed to protect American jobs — hostage to his demands to add more foreign labor in one of the worst economies we've seen in years is an outrageous tactic. Even in an election year in which the dismal state of our economy appears to be voters' greatest concern, it appears the concerns of powerful special interests still come first.

FAIR/IRLI Victory: Appeals Court Rules Against California's Tuition Policy

California's policy of granting in-state tuition benefits to illegal aliens at public colleges and universities is unconstitutional, ruled a state appeals court on September 15. The landmark decision sets a legal precedent that will have an impact on similar policies in nine other states that grant in-state tuition benefits to illegal aliens.

The case, *Martinez v. Board of Regents of the University of California*, was brought by the Immigration Reform Law Institute (IRLI), the public interest law affiliate of FAIR. IRLI and FAIR filed a class action suit on behalf of some 80,000 U.S. citizens who were forced to pay as much as \$17,000 a year more to attend public universities in California than illegal aliens were paying.

IRLI's groundbreaking legal work is providing American citizens with the ability to protect their interests in the courts.

In an 84-page ruling, the three judge panel agreed with IRLI's contention that the California policy violates both the equal protection clause and privileges and immunity clause of the U.S. Constitution. The California in-state tuition policy also violates expressed provisions of both the Immigration Act and the Welfare Reform Act of 1996. *Martinez v. Board of Regents* is the first in-state tuition suit to be decided on the merits of the case.

In 1996, Congress passed and President Clinton signed legislation that explicitly states that a state offering in-state tuition benefits to illegal aliens must make the same discounted tuition rates available to all citizens and nationals of the United States. As a result of this precedent-setting ruling, U.S. citizen students who have been forced to pay out-of-state tuition rates stand to collect reimbursements from the state. The California appeals court ruling also opens the door to law suits against other jurisdiction that provide a whole range of additional public benefits to illegal aliens in defiance of federal law.

The California ruling obviously represents an important victory for the students who were illegally charged excessive tuition and California taxpayers who have been forced to foot the bill for providing college educations to illegal aliens. But the decision also demonstrates the importance of IRLI's efforts to represent the legal interests of the American public in immigration matters. IRLI's groundbreaking legal work is providing American citizens with the ability to protect their interests in the courts.

The Human Cost of Illegal Immigration Featured at Hold Their Feet to the Fire

Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008 coincided with the seventh anniversary of 9/11 — a national tragedy that was facilitated by the failure of our government to enforce its immigration laws. While 9/11 may be seared in our collective memories, many of our fellow Americans remember other dates when



Althea Shaw, aunt of slain L.A. teen, describes how sanctuary policies became a family's tragedy.

local sanctuary policies and the federal government's failure to control our borders resulted in needless personal tragedies.

For the Shaw family of Los Angeles, that date is March 2, the day their son, Jamiel Jr., was gunned down, three doors from his home, by an illegal alien gang member while his mother, Anita, was serving her second tour of duty in Iraq with her Army unit. Along with other parents, grandparents, husbands, wives, and siblings, the Shaw family traveled to Washington to participate in and support Hold Their Feet to the Fire and to tell their story to the American people and the nation's leaders.

Over the two days of the event, other families who also had loved ones taken from them by illegal alien criminals — some with previous criminal records who were allowed to remain in this country because local sanctuary policies shielded them from deportation — told their stories to talk radio listeners around the country. These grieving families provided testimony to the price that ordinary citizens pay for the political pandering of many government officials.

In conjunction with Hold Their Feet to the Fire, House Judiciary Committee Republicans convened a forum at the U.S. Capitol to hear from some of those who have suffered from these policies. Organized by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-Tex.), ranking minority member of the Committee, these families had the opportunity to tell their stories and put human faces on the effects of the failures of federal and local officials to protect their loved ones.

Sadly, Immigration Subcommittee Chairwoman Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.) and her Democratic colleagues stayed away from the forum. Indicative of the lack of concern many in Congress demonstrate for the consequences of their failed policies, Lofgren commented, "if they want to go through fake proceedings, I guess that's up to them. The public is going to know it's a bunch of baloney."

FAIR Activists Lobby Congress for True Immigration Reform

The open borders lobby has lots of money to spend on lobbying for a massive illegal alien amnesty. Their own reports indicate that three of the most prominent open borders groups, the National Council of La Raza, the Service Employees International Union, and others spent in excess of a million dollars lobbying for passage of the failed 2007 Senate amnesty bill.

Unfortunately FAIR and the immigration reform movement as a whole does not have the special interest and corporate dollars to match their



Immigration reform activists converge on Capitol for Lobby Days.

CONTINUED on page 3

LOU DOBBS ON RADIO ROW continued

Monica Ramos, wife of imprisoned border agent, on CNN's Lou Dobbs Tonight.



The "Two Lous" – Barletta and Dobbs – talk immigration reform.

FAIR Congressional Task Force's Hold Their Feet to the Fire event as the venue to address the issue of immigration reform. In a hectic two days of on-site preparation, CNN transformed the ballroom of the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill into the set of nationally broadcast television program. The presence of Lou Dobbs Tonight both tapped into the excitement and energy of Hold Their Feet to the Fire, and infused the event with even more energy.

Dobbs, who frequently invites talk radio hosts to appear on his program to discuss issues that are of concern to their listeners, simulcast portions of his television program with the local talk hosts as they appeared on the air discussing immigration reform. Dobbs' participation in Hold Their Feet to the Fire also provided immigration reform activists the opportunity to meet and show their appreciation for his championing of the immigration reform issue.

LOBBY DAYS continued

lobbying efforts. But what we lack in financial resources to get our message across to policy-makers, we more than make up for with public support. In conjunction with Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008, FAIR activists and supporters demonstrated their commitment to this cause by turning out for Lobby Days on Capitol Hill.

For years, FAIR has built a grassroots network of citizen lobbyists and state advisors around the country. While Lou Dobbs and radio talk show hosts were broadcasting the message of real immigration reform around the country, some 200 activists fanned out across Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and their staffs.

Headquartered at the 4-H Center just outside Washington, D.C., the activists broke off into lobbying teams led by state advisors, and made hundreds of congressional office visits. The message they delivered was that real immigration reform must be a priority in the new Congress.

While the activists, gathered from 40 states, came to Washington for serious business, Lobby Days also provided some opportunity for fun and networking. After spending their days lobbying on Capitol Hill, FAIR's field department hosted these citizen heroes at a barbecue on the 4-H Center grounds and the screening of a new documentary, *Drug Wars*, by filmmaker Rusty Fleming.

Activists from different parts of the country were able to share experiences and strategy ideas during lobbying days. These new connections will inevitably advance the cause that all of them are devoting their time and energy towards. After three days of lobbying, networking, and socializing, the activists headed home energized and prepared for the next battle.

FAIR'S First Annual "We the People" Awards

Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008 was an important media event, providing radio and television audiences a comprehensive discussion of immigration policy. But it was also an opportunity for people who have dedicated themselves to true immigration reform to socialize, celebrate the accomplishments of our movement, and to honor some individuals who have most influenced the debate. The event brought together many of the most significant voices in the media, in elected offices, and in citizen activism.

day of Hold Their Feet to the Fire, after the day's broadcasts were finished and after the citizen lobbyists returned from their congressional visits, the event moved across the street to the National Postal Museum for a cocktail reception and the "We the People" awards ceremony.

While deciding who to recognize for their achievements in government and citizen activism were difficult choices, the "People's Voice" award for excellence in representing the people's interests in media was an easy one. Before an appreciative au-

sizing the importance of true immigration reform on his TV and radio programs. He also expressed his appreciation to FAIR for the work we have done to educate the American public about the impact of our nation's failed immigration policies.

State Representative Randy Terrill of Oklahoma received the "People's Representative" award. Rep. Terrill is the author of Oklahoma's landmark legislation, HB 1804, that has shown the rest of the nation what state and local governments can do to effectively combat illegal immigration. In receiving the "People's Representative" award, Terrill acknowledged the role that the Immigration Reform Law Institute played in assisting him in drafting legislation that is enforceable and the role of many activists in his home state.

The "People's Leadership" award was presented to Dr. Rodney Hunt, founder of Mississippians for Immigration Reform and Enforcement (MFIRE). Dr. Hunt represents the best traditions of American citizen activism. Recognizing the growing problems associated with mass illegal immigration in Mississippi, Dr. Hunt didn't just complain – he acted. Together with other citizens involved in MFIRE, they have managed to get significant immigration enforcement measures through the Mississippi legislature.



FAIR president Dan Stein introduces Dobbs at the Lobby Days reception.

In recognition of the contributions that key individuals have made to advance true immigration reform, FAIR took this opportunity to present awards to three people in the areas of media, government and activism, who have best represented the interests of the American people in the immigration debate. At the end of the first

dience of immigration reform activists, FAIR president Dan Stein and executive director Julie Kirchner presented to the "People's Voice" award to Lou Dobbs, host of a nightly CNN broadcast and a nationally syndicated radio program.

In accepting the award, Dobbs reiterated his commitment to empha-

Give a FAIR Gift Membership and Get a Gift!

Giving a gift membership is easy. Just fill out the coupon below or contact Melissa Bradley-Wilson at FAIR, using our toll-free number, (877) 627-3247, and for a contribution of \$25 or more, we will send a confirmation letter to you and a welcome letter to the gift recipient.



And to show our appreciation for your support of FAIR, we will send you and the gift recipient a complimentary FAIR BIC® Tote Bag.

This attractive and durable tote measures 15 1/2" w x 13 1/2" h x 3 1/2" d, is perfect for shopping, vacations or for carrying files and notes and has a zippered main compartment, a mesh pocket designed to hold a water bottle, and adjustable shoulder strap.

Here's an Additional Contribution. Keep up the Good Work!

Cut here and mail to FAIR

✂ 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW • Suite 330 • Washington, DC 20001

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other \$ _____

All contributions are tax-deductible.

I am making my donation by **check payable to FAIR**, or credit card (check one)



Name (as it appears on card): _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Amount: _____

☐ I've included at least \$25 for a Gift Membership to:

Gift recipient's name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Stay Informed. Get Involved. Make a Difference!

☐ I would like to receive the FAIR Immigration Report and Legislative Updates online.

☐ I would like to receive only the Legislative Updates.

Here is my email address: _____

NL1008



FAIR is one of a select few charitable organizations certified by the BBB Wise Giving Alliance. You can be sure we are operating responsibly and are committed to ethical standards.



OUR GOALS ARE THE SAME AS YOURS.

- ▶ End illegal immigration
- ▶ Restore common sense to immigration policies
- ▶ Enforce immigration laws
- ▶ Stop terrorists at our borders
- ▶ Find a balance between people and resources

The immigration issue has never been bigger or hotter – and that means the challenges we face – and the opportunities – are greater than ever. As America approaches a defining moment in its immigration history, your pledge to FAIR in the 2008 Combined Federal Campaign is needed now more than ever. Look for FAIR under our full name in your CFC brochure.

Federation for American
Immigration Reform

**CFC Number
11696**