



FEDERATION FOR AMERICAN IMMIGRATION REFORM

Immigration REPORT

OCTOBER 2009

Inside . . .

New FAIR Report Details
Health Care Costs
of Immigration

PAGE 2

Setting the Record Straight:
House Health Care Bill
Would Cover Illegal Aliens

PAGE 3

Immigration Reform
Activists Gather in D.C. for
Lobby Days

PAGE 3

The 44 Radio Talk Hosts
Who Made Hold Their Feet
to the Fire a Success

PAGE 4

The 2009 "We the People"
Awards Recipients

PAGE 5

Members of Congress on
Radio Row

PAGE 7

FAIR

Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009: The People's Chance to Weigh In on Immigration Reform

Once again, the power elite in Washington are preparing to promote immigration reform legislation that features a massive illegal alien amnesty. And, once again, the White House and congressional leaders are attempting to shut the American people out of the discussion. So, for the fifth time in the past six years, the people who talk to and with the American people on a daily basis came to Washington, en masse, to hold Congress's feet to the fire.

Organized by FAIR, Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009 brought 44 talk radio hosts from across the United States to the nation's capital to hold a dialogue with the American people about immigration policy and

how it can be reformed to serve their interests. Broadcasting from the Phoenix Park Hotel, just blocks from the U.S. Capitol, the 44 hosts blanketed the nation's radio airwaves with informative discussions about nearly every aspect of U.S. immigration policy.

Co-hosted by nationally syndicated talk host Roger Hedgecock, Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009 reached millions of radio listeners around the country. On September 15 and 16, dozens of immigration policy experts and members of both houses of Congress circulated among the 44 talk hosts to present their ideas about how to reform America's immigration system and to take calls from concerned citizens.

CONTINUED on page 6



FAIR Study Details How Failed Immigration Policies Are Exacerbating America's Health Care Crisis

Amid the raging national debate about how to reform our health care system, a new report by FAIR finds that immigration — both legal and illegal — is a driving force behind the growth of the medically uninsured in America. The newly released study, *The Sinking Lifeboat: Uncontrolled Immigration and the U.S. Health Care System in 2009*, finds that immigrants and their U.S.-born children accounted for 71 percent of the increase in the medically uninsured population between 1989 and 2007, and that unreimbursed health care for illegal aliens now costs U.S. taxpayers \$10.5 billion a year.

According to the report, immigrants and their dependent children are far more likely to lack health insurance than the rest of the population. Although the foreign-born make up about 12 percent of the U.S. population, they represent nearly one-third of the medically uninsured. Among illegal aliens the problem is even more acute. Two

out of every three illegal residents of the U.S. are medically indigent.

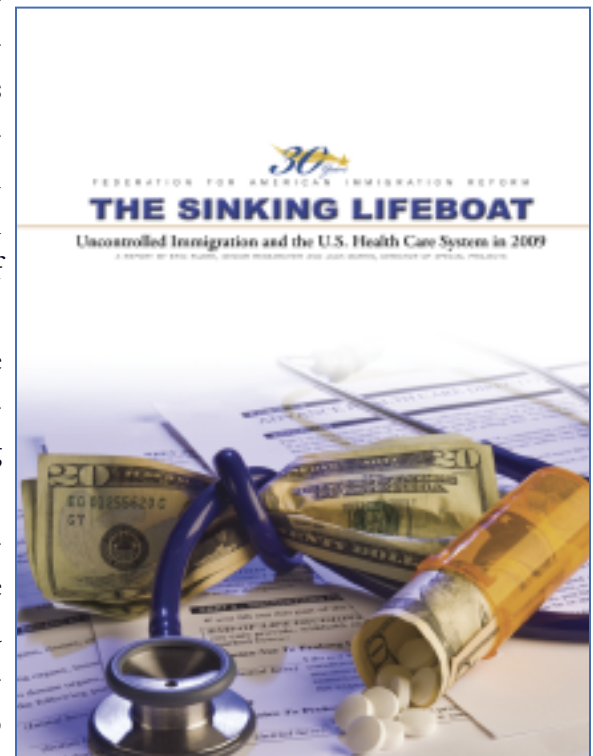
The findings of *The Sinking Lifeboat* about the immigration component of the health care crisis have been tacitly acknowledged by the Obama administration. The White House abruptly stopped using the figure of 47 million uninsured in the U.S. and has begun talking about 30 million uninsured *Americans*, thereby conceding that immigrants represent about one-third of those without health coverage.

In numerous public appearances, President Obama has also conceded that providing government subsidized health benefits to illegal aliens would be politically untenable. But rather than working to alleviate the problem through better enforcement of laws against illegal immigration, the president has signaled that he intends to provide medical coverage to illegal aliens by granting them amnesty.

Speaking to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute in September, President Obama said, "Even though I do not believe we can extend coverage to those who are here illegally, I also don't simply believe that we can simply ignore the fact that our immigration system is broken...If anything, this de-

bate underscores the necessity of passing comprehensive immigration reform and resolving the issue of 12 million undocumented people living and working in this country once and for all."

In addition to detailing the significant impact our failed immigration policies have on our health care system, *The Sinking Lifeboat* provides sensible reform recommendations that would reduce levels of illegal immigration and ensure that legal immigrants have health insurance coverage before they are admitted.



**THE FULL REPORT CAN BE
FOUND ON FAIR'S WEB SITE,
WWW.FAIRUS.ORG**

**Immigration
REPORT**

Board of Directors

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

Staff

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

FAIR Immigration Report
(ISSN 1067-3337) is published 10 times a year
by the Federation for American Immigration
Reform a non-profit membership organization.

FAIR 55 Massachusetts Ave., NW • Ste. 200 • Washington, DC 20001
(202) 338-7004 • info@fairus.org • www.fairus.org

Setting the Record Straight on Health Care Benefits for Illegal Aliens

On September 9, President Obama went before a Joint Session of Congress and the American public to discuss the issue of health care reform. Thanks to an audible remark from the House chamber by Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.), the portion of the president's address dealing with the issue of eligibility for illegal aliens received enormous attention. The incident forced the national media to finally address the gaping loopholes in the House health care bill that would allow illegal aliens to benefit.

In his speech, President Obama stated, "The reforms I'm proposing would not apply to those who are here illegally." Of course, Congress will not be voting on the reforms the president is proposing, but rather the reforms that are in the legislation written by the House and Senate. The House bill, H.R. 3200 – the only one in legislative form at the time of President Obama's address – clearly would enable illegal aliens to access public health care benefits. These loopholes in H.R. 3200 were exposed and publicized by FAIR, and later confirmed by a report issued by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service.

Ironically, Rep. Wilson's remarks triggered reappraisal by the national media, which had steadfastly accepted assurances from House leaders that the bill barred illegal aliens from receiving benefits. Many media outlets that had labeled the claim that illegal aliens would receive benefits as a "myth," were forced to acknowledge that H.R. 3200 allows illegal aliens to enroll in the proposed public health insurance program, and lacks a verification procedure to prevent illegal aliens from receiving "affordability credits" to purchase private health insurance.

The incident also compelled the authors of the Senate draft version of the health care bill to include stronger verification procedures to prevent illegal aliens from receiving taxpayer subsidized benefits. The language of the Senate health care bill had not been finalized before this issue of the *Immigration Report* was published. We urge FAIR members and immigration reform activists to check FAIR's web site, www.fairus.org, for updated information about this and all other immigration issues.

Immigration Reform Activists Join Radio Hosts to Make Sure Congress Gets the Message

Hold Their Feet to the Fire is more than just an annual media event. While it would be impossible to overestimate the impact of having 44 radio hosts, including national media figures like Lou Dobbs and Roger Hedgecock, broadcasting to millions of listeners, the event would not have had the same effect on the national debate without the participation of dedicated citizens.

Each year, in conjunction with Hold Their Feet to the

Fire, FAIR organizes Lobby Days for an extraordinary group of immigration reform activists who come to Washington to meet with members of Congress and their staffs. This year, some 180 activists from 31 states converged on the Capitol to deliver the message to Congress that Americans want true immigration reform consistent enforcement of our immigration laws, not amnesty or massive increases in immigration. The FAIR activists were joined by a group of 75 people who traveled with Roger Hedgecock from Southern California.

Participants in Lobby Days 2009 had a unique opportunity to participate in the immigration debate. Organized into small groups, Lobby Day par-



Each year, in conjunction with Hold Their Feet to the

participants logged 1,120 congressional office visits over two days (many offices were visited by multiple groups). They met with members of Congress who support true immigration reform, and those who support mass amnesty. Most of all, their passion and dedication made it

CONTINUED on page 7



A Million Thanks!

FAIR wishes to extend our deepest appreciation to the 44 radio hosts who broadcasted their programs from the Hold Their Feet to the Fire radio row, and to their producers and station managers. Their participation demonstrates again the important role that talk radio plays in keeping the American people informed about issues that are vital to them and the nation.

Roger Hedgecock
Lou Dobbs
Lars Larson
Mike Agnello
Dave Elswick
Sandy Rios
Dave Barger
Joyce Kaufman
Gary Sutton
Armstrong Williams

Ted Talbot
Dan Rivers
Doug Stephen
Howie Carr
Leland Conway
Heidi Harris
Helen Glover
Jon-David Wells
Reid Mullins
Inga Barks
Dale Jackson
Greg Garrison
Edd Hendee
Martha Zoller
Will Anderson
Ken Pittman
Joe Thomas
Thom Hartmann
Lynn Woolley
Rocky D
Les Kinsolving
Mark Carbonaro
Mark Reardon
Peter Boyles
Jamie Allman
Todd Long
Jon Justice
Talk Radio News Service
Tom Marr
Mike Schikman
Bud Hedinger
Chris Simon
Bill LuMaye
Ron Sherman

Radio America
United Stations Radio Network/CNN
Compass Media Networks
WCHS-AM
KARN-FM
WYLL-AM
WRTA-AM
WFTL-AM
WSBA-AM
WGCV-AM
WLOB-FM
WKBN-AM
"Good Day" Syndication
WRKO-AM
WLAP-AM
KDWN-AM
WHJJ-AM
KLIF-AM
KTOK-AM
KERN-AM
WVNN-AM/FM
WIBC-AM
KSEV/KVCE-AM
WDUN-AM
WBHP-AM
WBSM-AM
WCHV-AM
Dial Global
The Lynn Woolley Show
WTMA-AM
WCBM-AM
KION-AM
KMOX-AM
KHOW-AM
KFTK-FM
WFLA-AM
KQTH-FM
Nationwide
WCBM-AM
WSVA-AM
WFLA-AM
KFOR-AM
WPTF-AM
KKNT-AM

Nationally Syndicated
Nationally Syndicated
Nationally Syndicated
Charleston, WV
Little Rock, AR
Chicago, IL
Altoona, PA
Ft. Lauderdale/Miami, FL
York, PA
Columbia, SC & XM/Sirius
Portland, ME
Youngstown, OH
Nationally Syndicated
Boston, MA
Lexington, KY
Las Vegas, NV
Providence, RI
Dallas, TX
Oklahoma City, OK
Bakersfield, CA
Huntsville, AL
Indianapolis, IN
Houston/Dallas, TX
Gainesville, GA
Huntsville, AL
New Bedford, MA
Charlottesville, VA
Nationally Syndicated
Texas Statewide
Charleston, SC
Baltimore, MD
Monterey/Salinas, CA
St. Louis, MO
Denver, CO
St. Louis, MO
Orlando, FL
Tucson, AZ
Nationally Distributed
Baltimore, MD
Harrisonburg, VA
Orlando, FL
Lincoln, NE
Raleigh, NC
Phoenix, AZ



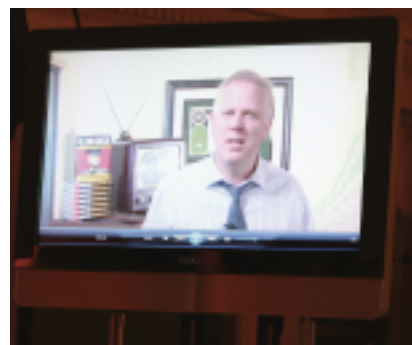


FAIR Announces “We the People” Awards for 2009

In addition to a national media event, Hold Their Feet to the Fire also provided immigration reform activists from different parts of the country the opportunity to meet, network, form alliances, and honor some of the people who have made a significant difference in advancing the cause of immigration reform.

Each year at Hold Their Feet to the Fire, FAIR sponsors a reception to show our appreciation for some of the people who have made a real difference in the immigration reform effort. For the second consecutive year, FAIR presented “We the People” awards to three individuals who advanced the cause of true immigration reform in the areas of media, government and activism.

The People’s Voice Award The People’s Voice Award is presented to a media figure for exceptional reporting on the impact that mass immigration has on ordinary Americans. The 2009 recipient, Glenn Beck, also stood out for his prominent role as an advocate for the release of Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean, two Border Patrol officers prosecuted during the Bush administration for wounding an illegal alien drug smuggler. With a large and growing audience for his nationally syndicated radio program and his Fox News television program, Beck has provided a valuable source of information for Americans concerned about immigration policy.



The People’s Representative Award When it comes to defending the interests of U.S. workers against unfair competition from illegal aliens, the people have no greater advocate than Rep. Jack Kingston (R-Ga.), the recipient of the 2009 People’s Representative award. While the congressional leadership and the Obama administration have dragged their feet on fully implementing and reauthorizing the E-Verify program, Rep. Kingston has consistently championed the use of E-Verify to protect the jobs of American workers. Whenever the opportunity presents itself, Rep. Kingston has offered amendments to bills requiring that federal contractors – businesses paid with taxpayer money – use E-Verify to ensure that the people they hire are legally eligible to work in the United States.



The People’s Leadership Award The 2009 recipient of the People’s Leadership award, Carolyn Helm, provides a case study demonstrating how determined activists can make a real difference in their communities and have an impact on the national debate. A resident of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Carolyn began working for immigration reform in her community. From there, she went on to work with State Representative Randy Terrill to write and pass House Bill 1804, which has been effective in dramatically reducing Oklahoma’s illegal alien population. Both Carolyn’s work, and the bill she helped enact, serve as models for what citizens and state governments can do to address illegal immigration at the local level.



Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009 continued

Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009 provided the people's counterpoint to the months of closed door discussions, including two high level meetings held at the White House over the summer, about immigration policy and plans for forthcoming legislation, which largely excluded representation from those who oppose mass amnesty. Thanks to the efforts of FAIR and our strong relationships with talk radio hosts, Hold Their Feet to the Fire sent a very clear message to President Obama and congressional leaders: The American people demand a voice in the immigration policy debate.

As in past years, Hold Their Feet to the Fire was not merely a media event, but a true grassroots effort for immigration reform. While the talk radio hosts were holding a dialogue with the American people, activists from across the country came to Washington, at their own expense, to meet with members of Congress and their staffs about the need to reform U.S. immigration policy in the public interest.

Organized by FAIR's field staff, Lobby Days 2009 included 180 immigration reform activists from 31 states. These activists were joined by 75 additional citizen lobbyists who accompanied talk host Roger Hedgecock from Southern California. Over the two days, participants held 1,120 meetings with congressional offices. (Some House and Senate offices hosted multiple meetings with activists.)

While amnesty and open borders have

the support of special interests who can hire high-priced lobbyists to promote their agenda, FAIR and the immigration reform movement are truly fortunate to have the support of Americans who commit their time, money and energy to securing a better future for our country. Their presence on Capitol Hill will leave an indelible impression on many members of the U.S. Congress as they consider how to reform America's immigration policies.

With 44 talk hosts broadcasting hundreds of hours of discussion about immigration policy to millions of listeners, Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009 was an unqualified success for FAIR and for the immigration reform movement. The fact that each year talk show hosts return to participate in Hold Their Feet to the Fire and each year new talk hosts are added is a testament to the central role that FAIR plays in the immigration policy debate.

The success of Hold Their Feet to the Fire will inevitably pay huge dividends as FAIR works to protect the interests of the American people in the immigration debate. With President Obama and leaders of Congress promising a renewed effort to enact an illegal alien amnesty in 2010, the network of talk radio hosts who speak to millions of Americans each day will provide FAIR an invaluable platform to educate the American people about the consequences of any bill brought before Congress.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR THE SUCCESS OF HOLD THEIR FEET TO THE FIRE GOES TO FAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR BOB DANE, WHO WAS THE 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 EVERY ONE OF THE PARTICIPATING TALK RADIO PROGRAMS ON THE AIR FROM THE PHOENIX PARK HOTEL.



Lobby Days 2009 continued

clear to every member of Congress that they, and the millions of Americans they represent, are watching closely what Congress does on this important issue.

Lobby Days began with training for the 180 participants. FAIR's government relations director, Chris Jaarda, instructed the group about how they could be most effective during their meetings with congressional offices. The citizen lobbyists were armed with facts, talking points, and informational materials as they headed off to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill.

During breaks from lobbying, activists participated in the excitement of Hold Their Feet to the Fire, dropping by the Phoenix Park Hotel to observe the activities along radio row.

As part of FAIR's appreciation to the men and women who made a special effort to come to Washington, FAIR hosted an evening reception at the National Postal Museum and a barbecue at the National 4-H Center, where most of the activists stayed during their visit to the capital.

Lobby Days participants found their two days of lobbying Congress to be exhilarating and productive. The experience of being an active participant in their democracy more than compensated for the tired feet and worn shoe leather.

To everyone who participated in Lobby Days, we at FAIR salute you for your dedication and commitment.

More than Two Dozen Members of Congress Discuss Immigration Reform at Hold Their Feet to the Fire

To make Hold Their Feet to the Fire the most enlightening event it can possibly be, FAIR identifies leading policy experts and members of Congress who can best inform the American public about immigration issues. During Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2009, these 27 members of Congress dropped by FAIR's radio row to be interviewed by one or more of the participating radio hosts.

Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.)

Sen. Jim Bunning (R-Ky.)

Rep. Parker Griffith (D-Ala.)

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.)

Rep. Nathan Deal (R-Ga.)

Rep. Tom Price (R-Ga.)

Rep. Geoff Davis (R-Ky.)

Rep. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.)

Rep. Henry Brown (R-S.C.)

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.)

Rep. John Carter (R-Tex.)

Rep. Ted Poe (R-Tex.)

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah)

Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.)

Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa)

Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Neb.)

Rep. Brian Bilbray (R-Calif.)

Rep. Ed Royce (R-Calif.)

Rep. Jack Kingston (R-Ga.)

Rep. Steve King (R-Iowa)

Rep. Hal Rogers (R-Ky.)

Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.)

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

Rep. Kevin Brady (R-Tex.)

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Tex.)

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-Tex.)

Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.)

The participation of so many members of both the House and the Senate at Hold Their Feet to the Fire is an encouraging sign that when immigration policy is addressed, the interests of the American people will be represented in Congress. Their presence at Hold Their Feet to the Fire is also a recognition of the important role that FAIR plays in the immigration policy debate.



FAIR invites you to join a dedicated group of FAIR members who provide steady contributions that enable us to remain at the forefront of the fight for immigration reform. This special group is the **Cornerstone Contributors**, a fitting name given its foundational importance to FAIR's work.

Cornerstone Contributors provide FAIR with a reliable source of support and allows us to sustain our public policy efforts here in Washington, D.C. and across the country.

The benefits of becoming a **Cornerstone Contributor** are...

- No fundraising mailings throughout the year,
- automatic membership renewal,
- semi-annual President's Reports containing in-depth information on FAIR's continuing efforts, and
- a thank you gift for stepping up your commitment.

Please contact Melissa Bradley-Wilson at
(202) 328-7004 or missy@fairus.org to become a
Cornerstone Contributor today.



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

☐ \$25 ☐ \$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 online.

Here is my email address: _____

NL1009



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 2009 Combined Federal Campaign is needed now more than ever. Look for FAIR under our full name in your CFC brochure.


FAIR
FEDERATION FOR AMERICAN
IMMIGRATION REFORM

**CFC Number
11696**