

South Dakota Survey of 500 Likely Voters
Conducted June 12-15, 2013
By Pulse Opinion Research

1. The United States Senate is now debating a bill that would overhaul U.S. immigration policy. How familiar are you with legislation now before the United States Senate, known as the Gang of Eight immigration bill?

- 18% Very familiar
- 46% Somewhat familiar
- 26% Not very familiar
- 10% Not at all familiar
- 1% Not sure

2. When it comes to dealing with illegal immigration, which of the following objectives should be the highest priority -- Securing our borders, developing an employment verification system that prevents illegal immigrants from working in the U.S., legalizing the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S., or deporting as many illegal immigrants as possible?

- 41% Securing our borders
- 23% Developing an employment verification system that prevents illegal immigrants from working in the U.S.
- 18% Legalizing the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S.
- 14% Deporting as many illegal immigrants as possible
- 3% Not sure

3. Now I would like to ask your opinion about specific parts of the immigration bill. If the bill passes, the Department of Homeland Security would have six months to develop a plan to secure our borders and five years to implement the plan. But illegal immigrants would be granted legal status and be allowed to live and work legally in the U.S. whether or not the plan is actually carried out. Which of the following statements best describes your view regarding legalizing the status of illegal immigrants?

- 14% You support allowing current illegal immigrants to gain legal status as soon as the plan to secure the border is submitted
- 38% You believe current illegal immigrants should NOT be given legal status until the plan is implemented and our borders are actually secured
- 7% You support legalizing current illegal immigrants regardless of whether our borders are secure
- 34% You oppose legalizing current illegal immigrants regardless of whether our borders are secure
- 7% Not sure

4. The bill allows the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant waivers that would give illegal immigrants legal status in the U.S. even if they have three or more misdemeanor convictions for offenses that include drunk driving, and domestic violence. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose these provisions of the bill?

8% Strongly support
13% Somewhat support
14% Somewhat oppose
60% Strongly oppose
5% Not sure

5. If the bill passed, about 12 million current illegal immigrants would become permanent legal residents – green card holders – within ten years. The bill would also double the number of new green cards we issue to other people over the next decade, to about 22 million. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose provisions of the bill that could add 34 million new permanent residents and workers to the United States over ten years?

10% Strongly support
17% Somewhat support
21% Somewhat oppose
49% Strongly oppose
2% Not sure

6. In addition to 34 million new permanent immigrants, the bill also allows about 20 million more skilled and unskilled foreign guest workers to enter the U.S. labor market during that ten-year period. Would the admission of about 20 million guest workers over the next decade be much too high, somewhat too high, somewhat too low, much too low or would it be about right?

53% Much too high
23% Somewhat too high
3% Somewhat too low
3% Much too low
13% About right
7% Not sure

7. Based on these provisions, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose enactment of the Gang of Eight immigration bill?

10% Strongly support
21% Somewhat support
21% Somewhat oppose
39% Strongly oppose
8% Not sure

NOTE: Margin of Sampling Error, +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence

