



FAIR Federation for American Immigration Reform

Immigration

REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2008

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Lou Dobbs Headlines 2008 Hold Their Feet to the Fire

Lou Dobbs, who has added a nationally syndicated radio show to his role as host of the highly rated CNN program, is among **50 or so** talk radio personalities participating in the 2008 Hold Their Feet to the Fire event. Broadcasting from the Phoenix Park Hotel on Capitol Hill on September 10 and 11, talk radio hosts from all across the United States will devote their programs to the issue of immigration.

Hold Their Feet to the Fire has become an annual event, attracting some of the leading talk radio programs to the nation's capital to raise an important issue that many of the nation's leaders would prefer to ignore: immigration reform that places the interests of the American people first.

The 2008 Hold Their Feet to the Fire event is being organized by the FAIR Congressional Task Force (FCTF), a 501(c)(4) organization affiliated with FAIR. Hold Their Feet to the Fire is co-sponsored by Roger Hedgecock, host of a popular talk radio program on KOGO in San Diego. Hedgecock originated the Hold Their Feet to the Fire con-



cept and has worked with FAIR and FCFT to expand it into a major annual event.

Talk radio has had an undeniable impact on the outcome of the immigration debate. This year's Hold Their Feet to the Fire event is designed to provide millions of talk radio listeners in every state with a high profile forum to express their views about this vital national issue.

Energized by the highly successful Hold Their Feet to the Fire event which took place in April 2007, talk radio and their listeners generated unprecedented public opposition to the Senate amnesty and guest worker bill that was introduced the following month. The level

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Hold Their Feet to the Fire Adds TV Component

CNN's Lou Dobbs Tonight to Originate from Site of the Event

Hold Their Feet to the Fire was conceived as an event for talk radio. In the past, national television has covered the Hold Their Feet to the Fire as a news event. But, for the first time, Hold Their Feet to the Fire will reach a national television audience as CNN's Lou Dobbs will originate his highly rated CNN broadcast from the site of the event.

CNN viewers, along with millions of talk radio listeners, will have the opportunity to join the national dialogue about the future of U.S. immigration policy when they tune-in to Lou Dobbs Tonight on September 10.

Census Bureau Confirms: Massive Government Mandated Population Growth on the Horizon for the U.S.

A new report from the U.S. Census Bureau projects that the population of the United States will grow to about 439 million by 2050. That figure represents an increase of about 135 million people over the next 42 years — or an annual growth rate of about 3 million.

What the new Census study released in August also reveals is that this massive population growth will be mandated by our government. Nearly all of the growth between now and the middle of the century will be a direct consequence of U.S. immigration policies and our failure to enforce laws against illegal immigration. Immigrants, and children born to

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immigrants, will comprise virtually all of the projected net increase.

Most Americans believe that the nation's interests will not be served by this sort of explosive population growth and would like to see the U.S. achieve population stability. These beliefs were ratified in the 1970s by the Rockefeller Commission which studied the impact of large-scale population growth and came to the same conclusions. (Since then, U.S. population has increased by some 100 million people, mostly due to immigration.)

The important thing to bear in mind is that the Census Bureau's projections are just that: projections based on current poli-

cies and trends. Thus, a soaring U.S. population is not an inevitability, but rather a choice. Moreover, the choices being made to maintain record immigration levels and allow millions of illegal aliens to remain here, are not supported by the vast majority of Americans.

Since its inception, preventing massive U.S. population increases through immigration has been one of the driving principles behind FAIR's educational and advocacy efforts. The latest Census projection underscores the urgency of enacting and enforcing meaningful immigration reform that results in a reduction in the overall level of immigration to the U.S.

Immigration REPORT

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

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Feet to the Fire 2008 continued

and intensity of public opposition to amnesty and millions of new guest workers was directly responsible for the defeat of the bill that had the backing of the White House and many congressional leaders. Hold Their Feet to the Fire is designed to ensure that as a new administration and a new Congress take office in 2009 they are fully aware of overwhelming public support for immigration reform legislation without amnesty or guest worker provisions, and for overall reductions in immigration levels.

Arguably no media figure has had a greater impact on the immigration debate than Lou Dobbs. Dobbs' CNN program carried live feeds from the 2007 Hold Their Feet to the Fire, and his relentless coverage of the clear sell-out of the public interest was instrumental in the defeat of the Senate amnesty bill. Dobbs now has a daily radio broadcast as well, syndicated nationally on the United Stations Radio Network. The inclusion of Dobbs' radio program to the 2008 Hold Their Feet to the Fire line-up adds star power to an already high profile event.

Like FAIR, the mission of the FCTF is to educate the American public about the importance of adopting immigration policies that serve the public interest. The reputation that FAIR and FCTF enjoy with leading media organizations makes it possible to communicate our agenda for true immigration reform into homes across America. We are honored by the trust many in the media place in us, as exemplified by their willingness to participate in Hold Their Feet to the Fire 2008.

Confirmed Hold Their Feet to the Fire Radio Row Attendees

Roger Hedgecock	KOGO-AM	San Diego, CA
Lou Dobbs	Nationally Syndicated	Nationwide
Les Kinsolving	WCBM-AM	Baltimore, MD
Dan Rivers	WKBN-AM	Youngstown, OH
Marc Bernier	WNDB-AM/WFHG-AM	Orlando, FL & TN
Martha Zoller	WDUN-AM	Atlanta, GA
Gary Sutton	WSBA-AM	York, PA
Steve Gill	WLAC-AM	Nashville, TN
Joyce Kaufman	WFTL-AM	Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Dave Barger	WRTA-AM	Altoona, PA
Jon David Wells	KLIF-AM	Dallas, TX
Armstrong Williams	WGVC-AM & XM Satellite	Nationwide
Howie Carr	WRKO-AM	Boston, MA
Edd Hendee	KSEV-AM/KCVE-AM	Houston & Dallas, TX
Rick Johnson	WCHS-AM	Charleston, WV
Phil Valentine	Nationally Syndicated	Nationwide
Pamela Furr	WVNN-FM	Huntsville, AL
Helen Glover	WHJJ-AM	Providence, RI
Jeff Katz	WBT-AM	Charlotte, NC
Dave Elswick	KARN-AM/FM	Little Rock, AR
Steve Clark	WFBG-AM	Altoona, PA
Doug Guetzloe	WAMT-AM	Orlando, FL
Thom Hartmann	Nationally Syndicated	Nationwide
Gary Baumgarten	News Talk Online	Nationwide On-Line
Joe Thomas	WCHV-AM	Charlottesville, VA
Fred Flannigan	WKRS-AM	Waukegan, IL
Tom Crouse	WVNE-AM	Worcester, MA
Joe Madison	WOL-AM & XM Satellite	Nationwide
Lincoln Ware	WDBZ-AM	Cincinnati, OH
Greg Knapp	Nationally Syndicated	Nationwide
Heidi Harris	KDWN-AM	Las Vegas, NV
Inga Barks	KERN-AM/KMJ-AM	Bakersfield & Fresno, CA
Doug Stephan	Nationally Syndicated	Nationwide
Bill Manders	KKOH-AM	Reno, NV
Chris Plante	WMAL-AM	Washington, DC
Darrell Ankarlo	KTAR-AM	Phoenix, AZ
Leland Conway	WLAP-AM	Lexington, KY
Reid Mullins	KTOK-AM	Oklahoma City, OK
Ted Talbot	WLOB AM/FM	Portland, ME
Sandy Rios	WYLL-AM	Chicago, IL
Mark Reardon	KMOX-AM	St. Louis, MO
Greg Garrison	WIBC-AM	Indianapolis, IN

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

FAIR Organizes Rally in Support of Workplace Enforcement

There are few stories that better illustrate the seamier side of America's illegal immigration crisis than the June raid of the Agri-Processors meatpacking plant in Postville, Iowa. When Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents raided the nation's largest kosher meat-processing plant, what they discovered was not merely people working illegally in the United States. They uncovered abominable labor conditions, child labor, and identity fraud perpetrated by both the illegal aliens and their employers.

And then, of course, there is the impact on communities like Postville and Americans generally. Over many years, well-paying unionized jobs were turned into low-wage occupations filled increasingly by foreign workers. Local governments were forced to bear the burdens of providing education, health care and other services to low-wage illegal workers and their families. So, when ICE swept through the Agri-Processing plant arresting illegal aliens for document fraud and building a case against an unscrupulous employer, they were doing exactly what the American public expects of them.

But for the advocates for illegal immigrants, the Postville raid, along with numerous others carried out by ICE over the past year or so, it was an occasion, once again, to make their opposition to any sort of immigration law enforcement clear. On July 27, pro-illegal immigrant activists converged on the small Iowa town to protest enforcement against illegal aliens. The rally, organized by Catholic and Jewish organizations, featured Congressman Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.), who called for a moratorium on ICE enforcement actions.

While protest marches have traditionally been the preferred tactic of supporters of illegal immigrants, the outrageous demands of those opposing ICE enforcement drew a response from hundreds of supporters of immigration law enforcement. Determined to demonstrate widespread support for ICE enforcement, FAIR organized a contingent of some 200 activists to hold a demonstration of their own in Postville.

Through its ties with a nationwide network of locally-based immigration reform organizations and activists, FAIR was able to mobilize an effective response to those demanding that the illegal aliens be rewarded with amnesty. Buses from Midwestern states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois brought supporters of immigration law enforcement to Postville, where they were joined by activists from as far away as New Jersey.

Spearheaded by FAIR's national field director Susan Tully, the pro-enforcement protestors were able to generate more balanced media coverage of the protests, as Tully appeared, or was quoted in, dozens of news stories, including *The New York Times*. While the strength of our side is at the ballot box and our ability to enable constituents to bring pressure on their elected representatives, Postville demonstrates that immigration reform activists can effectively respond to the opposition's efforts to influence public opinion.



AROUND THE COUNTRY

COLORADO

Whenever voters are asked to consider immigration enforcement measures at the ballot box, they overwhelmingly vote in favor of such initiatives. That trend continued on August 12, when voters in Denver resoundingly approved Initiative 100, a measure that would give police the authority to impound vehicles driven by illegal aliens. Initiative 100 passed by a 54 percent to 46 percent majority. Voters in the city approved the proposal as a way of dealing with unlicensed and uninsured illegal aliens on the road. Colorado is one of many states that bars illegal aliens from obtaining driver's licenses.

CONNECTICUT

Ignoring the risk and cost to the community of illegal immigration, the Hartford City Council unanimously approved a measure declaring Connecticut's capital city a sanctuary for illegal aliens. In spite of recent tragic incidents around the country in which innocent citizens have been murdered by illegal alien criminals who were not identified as such because of local sanctuary policies, the Hartford sanctuary measure bars city employees, including police, from inquiring about immigration status.

MISSOURI

On the heels of adoption of sensible statewide immigration enforcement policies in Missouri and a recent court ruling upholding local enforcement ordinances in Valley Park, Missouri, other communities are set to follow suit. The town of Lake Saint Louis is considering its own version of the Valley Park ordinance which allows the city to strip the business licenses of companies caught hiring illegal aliens. The Valley Park ordinance was crafted by FAIR's affiliate organization, the Immigration Reform Law Institute, which also helped to successfully defend the measure against lawsuits.

E-Verify is Reauthorized by House, but Faces a Roadblock in the Senate

As we reported in last month's issue of *Immigration Report*, some members of the House of Representatives were working behind the scenes to weaken, or even scrap, the E-Verify program. E-Verify is a highly successful system used by more than 70,000 U.S. employers to ensure that workers are legally eligible to hold jobs.

As these attempts to undermine E-Verify became apparent, FAIR worked to publicize the backroom effort to the media and to inform immigration reform activists about what was transpiring. Thanks to the thousands of people who responded with phone calls, emails and faxes, the foes of E-Verify abandoned their efforts, and a five-year reauthorization of the program passed the House by a lopsided 407-2 vote.

While renewal of E-Verify has cleared one major legislative hurdle, its future remains in doubt. The Senate adjourned on August 1 without voting to reauthorize the program, largely due to the intransigence of one Senator, Robert Menendez (D-N.J.). Sen. Menendez has blocked a vote on the reauthorization measure, demanding the inclusion of an amendment to "recapture" hundreds of thousands of unclaimed visas dating back to 1992 (see "In The News" op-ed).

Without reauthorization by both houses, E-Verify will expire on November 30. With an election looming just weeks away, the legislative calendar for the remainder of this session of Congress is a very abbreviated one, and the Senate will need to act immediately to keep this valuable program in place to protect the interests of American workers.

In an effort to drive home the importance of this program, FAIR spent much of the August recess generating media discussion of the need for reauthorization. In addition, FAIR's field staff worked with activists around the country to help them convey the urgency of maintaining E-Verify to legislators while they were at home in their states and districts.

Reauthorization — and even expansion of E-Verify — is critical to cutting off the magnet of jobs that draws millions of illegal aliens to our country.

INTHE NEWS

With Jobs Disappearing, Congress Determined to Admit More Foreign Workers

Much of what Congress does when it comes to immigration policy, they would prefer that the American public not learn about. FAIR believes that the American people have a right to know and respond when Congress acts contrary to their interests. This op-ed, exposing the effort to hold reauthorization of E-Verify hostage to the issuance of hundreds of thousands of new green cards appeared in the online journal Townhall.com and the Bergen Record (New Jersey).

By Ira Mehlman

Congress adjourned for a month-long recess on Aug. 1, the same day that the Bureau of Labor Statistics released distressing news about unemployment. The July economic news was not good. The official unemployment rate hit a four-year high of 5.7 percent, as the economy shed 51,000 jobs last month, bringing the total of lost jobs for 2008 to 463,000.

Seemingly oblivious to what is happening back in their states and districts, the House Immigration Subcommittee finished up business for the rest of the summer by approving legislation that, if enacted, would “recapture” some 557,000 visas that were not used during the years they were made available, going back as far as 1992. The bill, H.R. 5882, was introduced by Subcommittee Chairwoman Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.).

More than half of these wily visas-that-got-away would be employment-based, while the rest would be recaptured for family-based immigrants. Since immigrants who are admitted under family preference categories are also likely to need a way to support themselves, most of them would also likely enter a tightening labor market.

Aside from the fact that our slumping labor market does not require lots of new workers right now, Rep. Lofgren’s bill treats the issuance of green cards as an entitlement, rather than a privilege. Current laws set a ceiling the number of visas that can be issued in a given year; Rep. Lofgren’s bill would turn a ceiling into a floor and allow immigrants to claim those green cards years later.

While the House is acting to recapture visas in a free-standing bill, Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.) is spearheading the Senate effort to corral those elusive little devils. Rather than recovering visas from the 1990s in a stand-alone bill like the House, Sen. Menendez is attempting to amend legislation to reauthorize E-Verify, a successful program that allows employers to access the Social Security Administration’s database to screen out illegal aliens. Reauthorization has already been approved by the House by a vote of 407-2, but is being blocked in the Senate by Mr. Menendez.

Without reauthorization, E-Verify will expire in November (only a short time away on a very abbreviated legislative calendar). Thus, the price that Sen. Menendez is asking to continue a program that protects thousands of Americans from losing their jobs to illegal aliens is the admission of hundreds of thousands of new workers to compete with them in a recessionary economy.

Now, if Congress could only write legislation to recapture those lost American jobs!

The push for admission of hundreds of thousands of new foreign workers is a graphic reminder of why Congress is held in such low esteem by the American public. At a time when 8.8 million Americans are officially unemployed, when our economy is losing more jobs than are being created, and when people’s paychecks are not keeping up with the soaring costs of food and energy, the agendas of the business and ethnic lobbies still takes precedence.

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IN THE NEWS continued

With the election just three months away, every member of Congress will spend their summer vacation feeling the pain of the folks back home and assuring constituents that they are doing everything in the power to protect the jobs and wages of American workers. In reality, back in Washington, many are doing just the opposite.

Given the complexity of the economic problems confronting this country there may be very little that Congress can do in the near term to bring back lost jobs – especially those that pay high wages and offer benefits. However, there is a lot they can do to make the situation worse for American workers. Failing to reauthorize E-Verify would be one of them. Flooding the already distressed labor market with hundreds of thousands of new workers by dusting off visas long past their expiration dates would be another.

Even if they can't shake the economy out of the doldrums, Congress can cushion things a bit for American workers as the economy heads into recession. E-Verify already exists and is being used by some 75,000 employers. Eleven states already require or encourage contractors to use the system to verify the work eligibility of their employees. A vote by the full Senate is all that stands in the way of an additional five years of protection for thousands of American workers against losing jobs to illegal aliens.

All that is required in order not to flood the labor market with hundreds of thousands of new workers during a recession is for Congress to do what Congress does best. This is one time when a do-nothing Congress would be wise to do nothing. If there is one thing that American workers don't need right now it is a congressionally mandated search-and-rescue mission for immigration visas that, for one reason or another, went unclaimed 15 years ago.

By any estimation, American workers are going to be in for a tough few years. The least people can expect from Congress is that they not make things worse by eliminating protections for workers and adding lots of new workers to compete for a dwindling number of jobs.

Congressman Gutierrez Compares ICE to Gestapo

Lashing out at the increasing effectiveness of enforcement efforts by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency, Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.) made an outrageous comparison between DHS and Hitler's storm troopers, the Gestapo.



Speaking to *the New York Times*, a leading political journal, Gutierrez asked rhetorically, "You know who is in charge now? The Gestapo agents at Homeland Security. They are in charge." Gutierrez has been a long-time champion of illegal immigration in Congress and has been at the forefront of efforts to win amnesty for millions of illegal aliens. In addition, he and some of his colleagues on the Hispanic Caucus have tried to silence media critics and leading immigration reform groups like FAIR.

In response to the reprehensible and inaccurate comparison, Assistant Secretary of DHS in charge of ICE, Julie Myers, immediately called for disciplinary action by Congress against Rep. Gutierrez. That call was immediately supported by FAIR in a press release calling Gutierrez's statement "offensive" and "a slap in the face to the rule of law."

Over the past year, as the government has been increasingly enforcing laws against the employment of illegal aliens, ICE has consistently conducted itself in a highly professional manner and, in doing so, has contributed to a decline in the number of people illegally entering the U.S.

The offensive tirade unleashed by Rep. Gutierrez demonstrates the visceral opposition by many of the leading pro-amnesty figures to any enforcement of U.S. immigration laws.

HELP FAIR SPREAD THE WORD!

More people get their news online than ever before through blog sites, podcasts and videocasts. Also, many people are now using social network sites like MySpace and Facebook to share information or to join groups of like-minded people.

That's why we are asking you to join our circle of friends, and help us spread the word through online channels. It is easy to join, just **register on the FAIR web site** and we will send you our weekly legislative updates and timely action alerts. In addition, we will send you the "link of the week" which you can post to your blog site, MySpace page or other web sites you visit frequently.

Our circle of friends can:

Blog

If you have your own blog or web site, let your visitors know that you support FAIR. Link to FAIR's daily blog site – the Dan Stein Report (www.steinreport.com). This site offers daily news links and commentary. FAIR will provide you a widget that you can easily display on your site. This works whether your blog is hosted on your own site or a 3rd party site like Blogger.

MySpace

If you are a MySpace user, you can add FAIR to your friends list and post our link of the week or send out a weekly bulletin to your friends list. Our MySpace user name is **fairimmigration**.

News Ranking Sites

Register on news ranking sites such as www.Digg.com and submit FAIR's news articles.

You can also visit web sites such as www.StumbleUpon.com and rate FAIR's web site.

By acting as an online ambassador, you can help FAIR to make sure the immigration reform message reaches a wide audience and build a strong support base for the future.

The three simple steps that you can take today are:

1. register on FAIR's site www.fairus.org to get our updates,
2. register on www.Digg.com or another bookmarking site like www.del.icio.us, and
3. link to FAIR's weekly legislative update and other publications on your personal blog.

We'll be sending out more information to our list subscribers on how you can help FAIR build our network of supporters in the coming month, so sign up today.

If you have issues accessing or registering on the FAIR site, just send an email to webmaster@fairus.org with your name, email and what problem you had.

