



Immigration REPORT

FAIR, and Others, Call for Removal of DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas for Failing to Live Up to His Oath of Office

As the Biden Border Crisis raged out of control in May, FAIR called for the resignation or removal of Alejandro Mayorkas as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Mayorkas took an oath “to defend and secure our country” when he was sworn in as secretary of DHS on February 2. However, he has failed to live up to that commitment and has instead presided over the reckless abandonment of border security and immigration enforcement. Moreover, he has shown no inclination to faithfully carry out his duties in the future.

In a statement calling for Mayorkas to step down or to be removed, FAIR President Dan Stein charged that “it is clear that Mayorkas will not secure the border or enforce the overwhelming majority of our nation’s immigration laws. Thus, every day that he remains secretary of DHS, he is consciously violating his oath of office. President Biden must ignore the open-borders puppeteers he has been surrounded with and terminate Secretary Mayorkas immediately. Time is running out.”

FAIR is not alone in calling for Mayorkas’ ouster. Three former high-ranking DHS officials also issued a statement charging that the secretary is in dereliction

of his duty. “Mayorkas has shown that he is the wrong person to lead the Department of Homeland Security. Rather than providing the support and tools his agencies need to execute their fundamental missions, he has created an unmitigated crisis where both immigration enforcement and border security are almost non-existent,” wrote former deputy DHS Secretary Ken Cuccinelli, former acting Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Mark Morgan and former acting Immigration and Customs Enforcement

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DHS Secretary

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Director Tom Homan. Morgan is now a senior fellow with FAIR.

Mayorkas is taking heat not only from groups like FAIR and former DHS officials for his and the Biden administration's handling of the border crisis. Democratic Congressman Henry Cuellar, who represents a south Texas district, rebuked Mayorkas and the administration for pie in the sky efforts to address the root causes of migration in Central America while at the same time doing their best not to enforce immi-



Image Credit: Flickr | U.S. Department of Homeland Security

gration laws. “They got to look at certain things, and it might be uncomfortable talking about what needs to be done, but it has to be done,” he said. “If that’s the law, then you got to follow the law. You can’t pick and choose what part of the law you want to enforce.”

At a Senate hearing in May, Mayorkas was excoriated for his and the administration's refusal to even

acknowledge that there is a crisis at the border, and his efforts to pin the blame for the situation on the Trump administration. Senator Mitt Romney (R-Utah), certainly no immigration enforcement hawk or an ally of former President Trump, tore into Mayorkas for both his job performance and his lack of forthrightness with Congress and the American public. “What I find astonishing...is that we have the secretary responsible for securing our border and immigration system who doesn’t recognize [the soaring levels of illegal immigration] as being a problem...I find that extraordinary and extremely damning,” Romney said.

Mayorkas’ effort to shift the blame for the migration surge also infuriated Ohio Republican, Rob Portman. In his testimony, Mayorkas charged that the Trump administration did nothing to address the surge last spring and tore down programs that could “help alleviate the pressure” at the border. Noting that the policies in place under the previous administration had dramatically reduced illegal migration, Portman retorted that he could not sit in the hearing “and not comment on this idea that somehow this is Donald Trump’s fault.”

Of course, while Mayorkas fully deserves to be removed from the helm of DHS, doing so would not entirely solve the problem. The problem begins in the Oval Office with a president who has done everything in his power to eviscerate immigration enforcement and encourage illegal migration. However, a new secretary who is prepared to honor his or her oath to safeguard the homeland might provide the president with better advice and place his or her duty to the American people ahead of loyalty to the president. ■

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Illegal Immigration Crisis Meets Homeless Crisis and College Tuition Crisis

In his April address to the nation, President Joe Biden laid out his very costly agenda for the country. Among the key targets of his proposed spending spree were addressing the nation's homelessness crisis and providing tuition-free college education to everyone in the country.

There is, of course, another pressing crisis that the president failed to acknowledge for the obvious reason that his own policies created it: The raging illegal immigration crisis at our southern border on top of the 14.5 million illegal aliens who were already here when he took office.

The scope of the nation's homelessness crisis is evident to just about everybody who lives in a major urban area, where highway underpasses and public parks are turned into homeless encampments. Yet, despite the urgent need to move people off the streets, the Biden administration announced plans to allow illegal aliens to tap into an emergency \$5 billion federal fund to provide people with housing vouchers. The \$5 billion fund was part of the \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill approved by Congress in March.

When asked if illegal aliens should be barred from accessing these vouchers, Marcia Fudge, the secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), stated succinctly, "The answer is no." "We are doing everything we can possibly to take any living person in this nation off the streets. That's kind of our posture," she added.

Thus, homeless veterans, Americans who have lost jobs and their homes due to the COVID unemployment crisis, or who have faced some other misfortune, will have to compete with illegal aliens (some of whom may have just snuck across the border) for taxpayer-funded housing vouchers.

But wait, there's more! To alleviate some of the financial burdens on American students, some of whom are struggling to pay tuition or keep a roof over their heads, the COVID relief package includes funding to assist them. In May, the Biden Department of Education (ED) issued new rules permitting illegal

aliens enrolled in a U.S. college or university to access these emergency assistance funds. The ED rules make it clear that all illegal aliens – not just those who are protected under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program – are eligible.

Americans who have lost jobs and their homes due to COVID unemployment crisis, or who have faced some other misfortune, will have to compete with illegal aliens ... for taxpayer-funded housing vouchers

In a statement, the ED asserted that illegal alien students "are no less deserving" of assistance than struggling American students and legal immigrants. The new ED rule notes, "In their capacity as students, undocumented persons, like all postsecondary students, pursue degrees, obtain employment commensurate with their educational attainment and, in doing so, contribute to the greater good of the economy and society as a whole. The department has been persuaded...that there is no good policy reason to treat them differently."

According to President Biden's own statements in his address to the nation, two of the most pressing crises facing the United States that he seeks to address in his massive new infrastructure proposal are widespread homelessness and the crushing burden of college education costs on American families. However, he is hampering these goals by simultaneously implementing immigration policies that encourage a new wave of mass migration that make both new and long-present illegal aliens eligible to receive funds that we intended to address that crisis. ■

Schumer, White House, Consider Parliamentary Maneuver to Pass Sweeping Amnesty

President Biden has done just about everything he can to eliminate any vestiges of border and immigration enforcement (although he still may have a few tricks left up his sleeve). But the Holy Grail of full amnesty and a pathway to citizenship for just about every illegal alien in the United States is now tantalizingly just beyond the reach of the president and his allies in Congress.

The roadblock to passage of a sweeping illegal alien amnesty is in the Senate, where under long-standing rules of the chamber, 60 votes are needed to bring a bill to the floor for a vote. The current 50-50 split means that a united Democratic caucus would need to swing ten Republican members to their side to reach the 60 vote mark. That is unlikely to happen.

However, a new tactic is emerging in pursuit of an all-encompassing amnesty for millions of illegal aliens. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), pushed by woke radicals, big tech, and an unabashedly activist “news” media, is openly contemplating blowing up that Senate rule to achieve a legislative goal that has scant public support.

In May, Schumer began floating the idea of folding language that could grant millions of illegal aliens full amnesty into President Biden’s already pork-laden infrastructure bill and getting it passed with just 51 votes (most likely with Vice President Kamala Harris casting the 51st vote). Under a maneuver known as “budget reconciliation,” the Senate can skirt the cloture rule, **which requires a 60-vote majority to bring a bill to the floor**, [cloture actually ends debate] if the legislation in question would have a significant budgetary impact.

According to The New York Times, “Mr. Schumer has privately told members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in recent weeks that he is ‘actively exploring’ whether it would be possible to attach a broad revision of immigration laws to President Biden’s infrastructure plan and pass it through a pro-

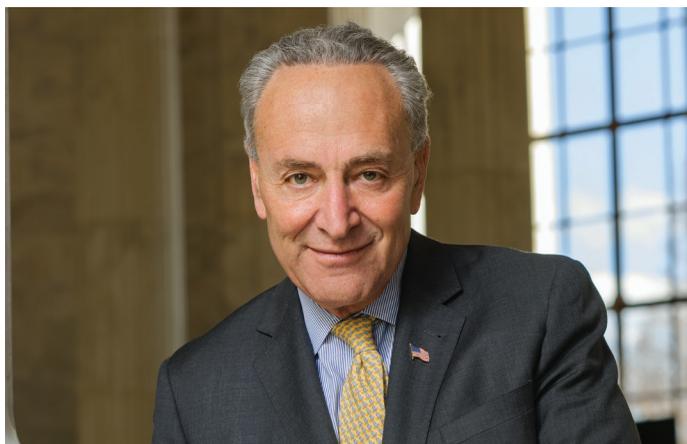


Image Credit: schumer.senate.gov

cess known as budget reconciliation” as activists grow “worried that Democrats may squander a rare opportunity to legalize broad swaths of the undocumented population while their party controls both chambers of Congress and the White House.”

Ironically, the massive amnesty contemplated by congressional Democrats and the Biden administration would have significant budgetary implications – incredibly harmful ones. Instead of increasing federal revenues, such an amnesty would result in a net fiscal drain of \$6 trillion from government coffers over the lifespan of those receiving amnesty.

Second, Schumer’s gambit would test the elasticity of the Senate rule that requires amendments to bills to be germane to the legislation they are being attached to. Making the case that millions of illegal aliens can somehow be considered infrastructure would seem to exceed the bounds of what now passes for credulity in our nation’s capital.

Both of these questions would have to be determined by the Senate parliamentarian, should Schumer decided to go down that road. If he does, one of the most important legislative acts of our time could be left in the hands of Elizabeth MacDonough, an obscure, unelected bureaucrat who serves as Senate Parliamentarian.

Sweeping Amnesty

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The effort to pass an amnesty amid an immigration (and other foreign and domestic) crises has little public backing. It does, however, have massive fire power behind it from the Democratic Party's ascendant far-left wing, woke Silicon Valley billionaires, and an increasingly ideological media. FWD.us – the pro-amnesty organization bankrolled by tech titans, most notably Mark Zuckerberg – announced that they

would be blasting TV airwaves with a \$50 million ad campaign imploring lawmakers to use budget reconciliation to give a pathway to citizenship for some eight million illegal aliens.

The effort is also being cheered on by media pundits. Washington Post columnist Greg Sargent declared the (ab)use of reconciliation to be almost a religious duty. “Democrats need to be ready to act alone, God and the parliamentarian willing,” he wrote. The American public can only hope that, like God, Ms. MacDonough cannot be swayed by Silicon Valley dollars. ■

Border Apprehensions Hit 21-Year High in April

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) apprehended nearly 179,000 people entering the United States illegally in April. That figure represents an astounding increase of more than 1,000 percent over April 2020 border apprehensions – hardly a “seasonal uptick,” as claimed by the Biden administration. Apprehensions in April were the highest for any month since 2000.

According to CBP, 62.5 percent of those apprehended were expelled from the country under Title 42, which allows for the expedited removal of people who pose a potential health threat to the nation. Title 42, which was adopted in 1944, was invoked by the Trump administration to remove people entering illegally during the COVID pandemic. (The Biden administration indicated in May that it is planning to cancel Title 42 removals in the near future.) The 62.5 removal rate means that some 68,000 migrants were allowed to enter the country in April.

The April apprehension figures saw a slight decrease in the number of unaccompanied children – 17,200 – and 50,000 family units, which include at least one parent and accompanying minor children. These slight declines were offset by significant increases in single adults, primarily working age men in search of jobs in the U.S. About 110,000 such migrants were apprehended in April by CBP.

The apprehension figures, however, only tell part of the story. The other part – those that got away or successfully entered without detection – is much

harder to quantify. However, given the volume of illegal immigration along the southern border and the manpower resources that are tied up with processing migrants who are apprehended and caring for unaccompanied children, those numbers are certainly significant. In addition, the criminal cartels that smuggle aliens into the United States often use the most vulnerable migrants as decoys – deliberately placing them in dangerous situations that force border en-



Image Credit: Flickr | U.S. Customs and Border Protection

forcement officers to rescue children, while the rest of their human cargo escapes.

FAIR, along with a growing number of critics of the Biden Border Crisis, is calling upon the administration to take necessary steps to rein in illegal immigration. This is necessary to protect both the interests and security of both the American people and the migrants who are routinely endangered by the criminal cartels that are estimated to be reaping a \$14

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Border Apprehensions

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million-a-day windfall from their human smuggling operations.

FAIR has called for the reinstatement of successful programs like the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), which returned migrants to Mexico while they awaited an initial hearing on their claims for political asylum. The MPPs effectively removed incentives for migrants to file fraudulent asylum claims. FAIR

is also urging the Biden administration to restore effective agreements with the governments of Central American countries that prevented large numbers of migrants from heading north. Additionally, FAIR is calling on the administration to resume construction on the border wall, including sections of unbuilt barriers that have already been paid for by American taxpayers.

These and other policies abandoned by the Biden administration have already proved effective at controlling the border and mass illegal immigration and need to be restored at once. ■

FAIR Launches Nationwide Ad Campaign Targeting Biden's Border Crisis



Image Credit: istock

The current humanitarian, national security and health catastrophe playing out on our southern border is a crisis, notwithstanding the Biden administration's efforts to portray it as a manageable "situation." It is not a normal seasonal uptick in illegal immigration, as the president and his handlers continue to assert. It is a self-induced crisis, created by the president's policies and words, enabled by members of Congress (mostly from his own party), and largely ignored by the national media.

In response, FAIR launched a nationwide ad campaign aimed at educating the American public about the genesis of the illegal immigration crisis: calculated decisions on the part of the Biden administration to open the border, scrap multilateral agreements with Mexico and Central American governments, effectively end all interior immigration enforcement, grant new benefits to illegal aliens, and promote sweeping amnesties. But Joe Biden could not have done this

on his own. He is being aided by the acquiescence of countless members of Congress who either support his policies, or have remained silent in the face of a growing crisis.

The ads are running in 20 markets across the United States and are intended to fill in the gaping information gaps left by major "news" media outlets which are ideologically on-board with the president's open borders and mass amnesties policies. The markets include key swing districts in which current members of Congress either support the policies responsible for the immigration crisis, or who have failed to speak out publicly against those policies.

The ad campaign is made possible by our members and supporters around the country who donate to FAIR. While FAIR does not have the financial support of billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg, who is backing a pro-amnesty ad campaign by the Silicon Valley-based group FWD.us, FAIR has been able to use targeted ad campaigns with great effectiveness in the past.

To view a sample of the ads your support has made possible, please go to FAIR's YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/user/fairfederation>. In addition to the latest ad campaign, FAIR's YouTube channel includes many informational videos about all aspects of U.S. immigration policy, as well as archived appearances by FAIR spokespeople on TV news programs. ■

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