A Proposal For Immigration Reform

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Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity (CIR ASAP) Act of 2009
Rep. Luis Gutierrez
POLITICS OF IMMIGRATION

• IMPACTS ON US SOCIETY
• IMPACT ON IMMIGRANTS
• IMPACT ON SENDING STATES
US ISSUES
1. NATIONAL SECURITY**
2. SOCIAL SERVICES/ED**
3. INFRASTRUCTURE
4. ECONOMIC*
5. POPULATION GROWTH
6. CULTURAL CHANGE
IMPACT ON IMMIGRANTS

• DISCRIMINATION**
• SOCIAL INSECURITY**
• INCOME*
• FAMILIAL HARDSHIPS*
IMPACT ON SENDING STATE

• POLITICAL SAFETY VALVE

• ECONOMIC SAFETY NET
  *--REMITTANCES

1. HOUSEHOLD INCOME
2. BUSINESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
GUTIERREZ PROPOSAL

• A UNILATERAL APPROACH
  – FOCUSES ON US
  – IGNORES SENDING COUNTRIES
MANAGE POPULATION GROWTH

• RESTRICT IMMIGRATION TO WORKERS 18+ (SEE TICKETS POLICY BELOW)
MANAGE CULTURAL IMPACT

• REDUCE IMMIGRANT NUMBERS

• REDUCE STATE-SPONSORED SPANISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION
NATIONAL SECURITY

• DOCUMENT THE UNDOCUMENTED WORKER

• UNDOCUMENTED WORKER BUYS TEMPORARY LEGALIZATION TICKET

• LEGALIZATION TICKET ENABLES OFFICIALS TO CONTROL ENTRY AND IDENTIFY IMMIGRANTS
IMMIGRANT TICKETS

• ALLOCATED ON FORMULA COMBINING DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLICY AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS, SENDING STATE SOCIAL POLICIES

• COST $1000-5000 (TO BE DETERMINED)

• PROVIDE ACCESS TO ALL WORKER’S RIGHTS, E.G., GEOGRAPHIC AND JOB MOBILITY, UNIONIZATION, PROTEST

• AUTHORIZE HOME VISITS AS OFTEN AS DESIRED WITH NO RE-ENTRY FEES
IMMIGRANT TICKETS II

• AUTHORIZE ACCESS TO SERVICES AVAILABLE TO LRA
• DO NOT AUTHORIZE TEMPORARY LEGAL AND UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS FREE EDUCATION OR TO STATE-FINANCED NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.
• RIGHT TO BECOME LRA AFTER 5 YEARS
BENEFITS TO ECONOMY

• SAVE COST OF WALL CONSTRUCTION
• ELECTRONIC ENFORCEMENT REDUCES COSTS OF AGENTS, ROUND-UPDATES, DEPORTATIONS
• EMPLOYERS’ FINES INCREASE VIA ELECTRONIC ENFORCEMENT
• ENFORCEMENT COSTS ARE PAID BY PRICE OF TICKET AND FINES
• LOWER EDUCATION COSTS
JOB COMPETITION

• IMMIGRANTS WILL COMPETE WITH RESIDENTS AND NATIVE BORN FOR LOWER END JOBS
• WAGES WILL RISE BECAUSE OF IMMIGRANT WORKERS’ RIGHTS
• COMPETITION WILL LEAD TO INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND WAGES OF ALL WORKERS
LABOR SUPPLY

• LABOR SUPPLY WILL RESPOND TO MARKET CONDITIONS

• INCREASED UNIONIZATION WILL PROTECT WORKERS
SOCIAL SERVICE UTILIZATION

• REDUCED HEALTH CARE CONSUMPTION & COSTS
• REDUCED EDUCATION CONSUMPTION
• INCREASED UTILIZATION AMONG TEMPORARY LEGAL IMMIGRANTS BECAUSE OF EMPLOYER BENEFITS
CRIMINALITY

• DECLINES AS IMMIGRANT POPULATION, ESPECIALLY YOUTH, DECREASES
• WEAKENS TRANSNATIONAL GANGS
TAXING INEQUITIES ELIMINATED

• INCOME FROM TICKETS WILL COVER COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION
• TICKET INCOME WILL BE ALLOCATED BASED ON IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENT PATTERNS
• ACCESS TO SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS
FAMILIAL DISRUPTION/HARDSHIPS

• FAMILIAL RELOCATION PREVENTED FOR MINIMUM OF 5 YEARS

• TICKET HOLDERS MAY RETURN HOME AS FREQUENTLY AS THEY CHOOSE. NO NEW ENTRY COSTS

• FACILITATES MAINTAINING TRANSNATIONAL FAMILY TIES
SENDING STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

• DEVELOP TRANSPARENT DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

• MAKE ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE

• DEVELOP AND DELIVER SOCIAL SERVICES
LIMITS ON TEMPORARY LEGAL STATUS

• TICKETS MAY BE RENEWED ANNUALLY FOR 5 YEARS. PRICE MAY INCREASE.

• IMMIGRANTS WHO COMMIT FELONIES OR HAVE REPEATED HISTORY OF MINOR CRIMES MAY NOT RENEW TICKETS

• AFTER 5 YEARS, IMMIGRANTS EITHER RETURN TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR APPLY FOR LEGAL RESIDENT STATUS.
CONSEQUENCES

• AN IMPROVED GUEST WORKER PROGRAM
• SEPARATES WORKERS FROM CHILDREN ON A TEMPORARY BASIS
• INCREASES LABOR MARKET COMPETITION
• IMPROVES WORKER WAGES AND EFFICIENCY.
• SATISFIES DEMANDS FOR LABOR
• PROTECTS TEMPORARY LEGAL IMMIGRANTS
CONSEQUENCES

• REDUCES BUT DOES NOT ELIMINATE FAMILY DISRUPTION
• STRENGTHENS IMMIGRANT TIES TO SENDING COMMUNITIES
• GENERATES PRESSURES ON REGIMES OF SENDING STATES