



CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

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FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – IMMIGRATION 114TH CONGRESS

H.R.276 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Immigration Compliance Enforcement (ICE) Act

Sponsor: Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6] (Introduced 01/12/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/12/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits the use of federal funds for: (1) the position of Public Advocate within U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); (2) the position of Deputy Assistant Director of Custody Programs and Community Outreach within ICE; or (3) any other position within ICE whose functions are substantially the same as those assigned to either of these two positions.

S.80 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

A bill to prohibit appropriated funds from being used in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits the use of community oriented policing services funds in contravention of provisions of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 that restrict a government entity or official from preventing any government entity or

official from sending to, or receiving from, the responsible federal immigration agency information regarding an individual's citizenship or immigration status.

H.R.1123 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Protecting Immigrants From Legal Exploitation Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11] (Introduced 02/26/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 03/31/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security

Introduced in House (02/26/2015)

Summary:

Amends the federal criminal code to subject a person to fine, imprisonment, or both, who: (1) knowingly or recklessly executes a scheme in connection with any federal immigration law-related matter to defraud a person, or to obtain money or anything else of value from a person by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; or (2) knowingly and falsely represents that such person is an attorney or an accredited representative in any federal immigration law-related matter.

Directs the Attorney General (DOJ) and the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS), to promulgate regulations, forms, and procedures defining the circumstances in which: (1) persons submitting immigration-related applications, petitions, motions, or other written materials must identify who (other than immediate family members) assisted them in preparing or translating such submissions; and (2) any person who received compensation (other than a normal fee for copying, mailing, or similar services) in connection with the preparation or submission of such materials must sign the form as a preparer and provide identifying information.

Authorizes the Attorney General to bring a civil injunction against an immigration service provider engaging in fraudulent conduct that substantially interferes with the administration of the immigration laws or who willfully misrepresents such provider's legal authority to provide representation before DOJ or DHS. Authorizes an alien to withdraw an immigration-related application or other submission if the alien: (1) submits information indicating that the application or submission was prepared or submitted by an individual engaged in the unauthorized practice of law or immigration practitioner fraud, and (2) attests that he or she had no prior knowledge that the application or submission was prepared or submitted by such an individual. Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to waive the bar on reentry for an alien who left the United States based on the erroneous advice of an individual engaged in the unauthorized practice of law or immigration practitioner fraud.

Directs the Secretary and the Attorney General, through the Director of the Office for Immigration Review, to carry out an outreach program to educate aliens regarding who may provide legal services and representation in immigration proceedings.

Directs the Secretary and the Attorney General to establish, within the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the Executive Office for Immigration Review, programs to award grants to eligible nonprofit organizations for direct legal services to aliens.

H.R.1700 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Vulnerable Immigrant Voice Act

Sponsor: Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8] (Introduced 03/26/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 03/26/2015 Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in House (03/26/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to require that counsel at the government's expense in a removal or related appeal proceeding shall be provided only for an alien who is: (1) an unaccompanied child, or (2) unable to represent himself or herself due to a serious mental disability.

H.R.1716 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

No Social Security for Illegal Immigrants Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Rohrabacher, Dana [R-CA-48] (Introduced 03/26/2015)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest 03/26/2015 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Summary: To amend title II of the Social Security Act to exclude from creditable wages and self-employment income wages earned for services by aliens illegally performed in the United States and self-employment income derived from a trade or business illegally conducted in the United States.

H.R.227 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

To prohibit the use of funds for certain immigration-related policies, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4] (Introduced 01/08/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security

Introduced in House (01/08/2015)

Summary: This bill prohibits the use of funds for certain immigration-related policies, including executive orders or any other executive policy issued after March 11, 2011, that provides for parole, employment authorization, deferred action, or any

other immigration benefit or relief for individuals who are unlawfully present in the United States (with exceptions for asylum, temporary protected status, or cancellation of removal by an immigration judge).

The Immigration and Nationality Act is amended to: (1) exclude from the definition of "unauthorized alien," with respect to the unlawful employment of aliens, any alien otherwise admitted to and lawfully present in the United States; and (2) consider an alien without lawful status to be an unauthorized alien whose employment is unlawful.

H.R.206 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Immigration Accountability Act

Sponsor: Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9] (Introduced 01/08/2015)

Committees: House - Homeland Security, Judiciary

Latest 02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/08/2015)

Summary:

This bill prohibits the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available for any fiscal year to implement or enforce specified immigration-related policies in:

- the memoranda issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security on November 20, 2014, which includes prosecutorial discretion regarding individuals who came to the United States as children and regarding certain individuals who are the parents of U.S. citizens or permanent residents, and expansion of the provisional waiver program;
- the memoranda issued by the President on November 21, 2014, which includes modernizing and streamlining the U.S. immigrant visa system for the 21st century;
- the memorandum issued by the Secretary on June 15, 2012, on exercising prosecutorial discretion with respect to individuals who came to the United States as children; and
- any substantially similar memorandum issued after November 21, 2014.

H.R.52 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Save America Comprehensive Immigration Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] (Introduced 01/06/2015)

Committees: House - Oversight and Government Reform, Homeland Security, Judiciary

Latest 01/23/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/06/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to provide increased protections and eligibility for family-sponsored immigrants.

Directs the Secretary of State to establish a Board of Family-based Visa Appeals within the Department of State.

Authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary in the rest of this bill) to deny a family-based immigration petition by a U.S. petitioner for an alien spouse or child if: (1) the petitioner is on the national sex offender registry for a conviction that resulted in more than one year's imprisonment, (2) the petitioner has failed to rebut such information within 90 days, and (3) granting the petition would put a spouse or child beneficiary in danger of sexual abuse.

Directs the Secretary to establish the Task Force to Rescue Immigrant Victims of American Sex Offenders.

Authorizes the Secretary to adjust the status of aliens who would otherwise be inadmissible (due to unlawful presence, document fraud, or other specified grounds of inadmissibility) if such aliens have been in the United States for at least five years and meet other requirements.

Authorizes the emergency deployment of Border Patrol agents to a requesting border state.

Sets forth provisions for Border Patrol acquisition and use of specified equipment. Directs the Secretary to: (1) provide for additional detention space for illegal aliens; (2) increase Border Patrol agents, airport and land border immigration inspectors, immigration enforcement officers, and fraud and document fraud investigators; (3) enhance Border Patrol training and operational facilities; (4) establish immigration, customs, and agriculture inspector occupations within the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection; (5) reestablish the Border Patrol anti-smuggling unit; (6) establish criminal investigator occupations within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); (7) increase Border Patrol agent and investigator pay; (8) require foreign language training for appropriate DHS employees; and (9) establish the Fraudulent Documents Task Force. Redefines the term "law enforcement officer" under provisions of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) to include: (1) federal employees not otherwise covered by such term whose duties include the investigation or apprehension of suspected or convicted individuals and who are authorized to carry a firearm, and (2) Internal Revenue Service (IRS) employees whose duties are primarily the collection of delinquent taxes and the securing of delinquent returns.

- Authorizes S (witness or informant) nonimmigrant status for aliens in possession of critical reliable information concerning commercial alien smuggling or trafficking in immigration documents.
- Establishes a reward program to assist in eliminating immigration-related commercial document fraud operations.
- Sets forth unfair immigration-related employment practices.

- Requires petitioners for nonimmigrant labor to describe their efforts to recruit lawful permanent residents or U.S. citizens.
- Makes permanent an INA provision allowing adjustment of status of certain aliens for whom family-sponsored or employment-based applications or petitions were filed by a specified date.
- Lessens immigration consequences for minor criminal offenses. Eliminates retroactive changes in grounds of inadmissibility and removal.
- Amends criminal offense removal-related provisions.
- Increases the worldwide level of diversity immigrants.
- Authorizes adjustment of status for certain nationals or citizens of Haiti.
- Eliminates mandatory detention in expedited removal proceedings.
- Amends the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 1998 to: (1) waive document fraud as a ground of inadmissibility, and (2) address determinations with respect to children.
- Eliminates the one-year filing requirement for asylum applicants. Includes gender persecution within the particular social group category of persecution.
- Provides for the permanent resident status adjustment of certain temporary protected status persons.
- Amends the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to eliminate a provision prohibiting restrictions on the communication of immigration status information by a government entity.
- Replaces the existing fashion model H-1B visa classification with an O-visa classification.

S.733 — 114th Congress (2015-2016) (HR 483)

Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI] (Introduced 03/12/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 03/12/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (03/12/2015)

Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act of 2015

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to exempt from worldwide or numerical limitations on immigrant visas the sons and daughters of Filipino World War II veterans who were naturalized under the Immigration Act of 1990 or other specified federal law.

H.Amdt.8 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Description: Amendment to require that DHS treat any alien convicted of any offense involving domestic violence, sexual abuse, child molestation, or child abuse or exploitation as within the categories of aliens subject to DHS's

highest civil immigration enforcement.
Amends H.R.240
Bill:
Sponsor: Rep. DeSantis, Ron [R-FL-6] (Offered 01/14/2015)
Latest 01/14/15 On agreeing to the DeSantis amendment (A003) Agreed to by
Action: recorded vote: 278 - 149 (Roll no. 31).

Amendment to require that DHS treat any alien convicted of any offense involving domestic violence, sexual abuse, child molestation, or child abuse or exploitation as within the categories of aliens subject to DHS's highest civil immigration enforcement.

Purpose:

An amendment numbered 3 printed in Part B of House Report 114-2 to require that DHS treat any alien convicted of any offense involving domestic violence, sexual abuse, child molestation, or child abuse or exploitation as within the categories of aliens subject to DHS's highest civil immigration enforcement.

H.R.604 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Nuclear Family Priority Act

Sponsor: Rep. Hice, Jody B. [R-GA-10] (Introduced 01/28/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 02/19/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/28/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate parents from the definition of "immediate relatives" with respect to those aliens not subject to worldwide immigration levels or numerical limitations.

Replaces existing family-sponsored immigrant categories with a single preference allocation for spouses and children of permanent resident aliens.

Reduces the number of, and revises the calculation for, fiscal year family-sponsored immigrant entrants.

Establishes a nonimmigrant visa category for an alien who is a parent of a U.S. citizen at least 21 years old.

H.R.77 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Justice for Children Now Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] (Introduced 01/06/2015)
Committees: House - Judiciary
Latest Action: 01/12/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Introduced in House (01/06/2015)

Summary:

Authorizes the Attorney General to appoint 70 immigration judges in addition to the those serving as of the date of enactment of this Act.

H.R.205 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)
Equal Protection for American Workers Act

Sponsor: Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26] (Introduced 01/08/2015)
Committees: House - Judiciary
Latest Action: 02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Introduced in House (01/08/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits the Secretary of Homeland Security from granting a work authorization to an alien who has been determined, in a valid immigration proceeding during which due process was afforded, to have been at any time unlawfully present in the United States.

H.R.530 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)
Unaccompanied Alien Children Assistance Control Act

Sponsor: Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26] (Introduced 01/26/2015)
Committees: House - Foreign Affairs
Latest Action: 01/26/2015 Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Introduced in House (01/26/2015)

Summary:

Directs the President to reduce foreign assistance allocations for Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, or El Salvador: (1) by the number of unaccompanied alien children who are nationals or citizens of any of those countries placed in federal custody in the preceding fiscal year because of their immigration status, and (2) multiplied by \$15,000.

S.60 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

A bill to prohibit aliens who are not lawfully present in the United States from being eligible for postsecondary education benefits that are not available to all citizens and nationals of the United...

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to prohibit unlawful aliens from being eligible for any postsecondary education benefit unless every citizen and national of this country is eligible to receive that benefit in no less of an amount, duration, or scope. (This replaces a prohibition against a state's offering unlawful aliens postsecondary benefits on the basis of their residence in the state that are more generous than those offered citizens or nationals of this country without regard to their state residence.)

Allows any citizen or national who is enrolled at a postsecondary educational institution that is alleged to have violated that prohibition to bring a civil action against any state official overseeing the institution to obtain appropriate relief, attorneys' fees, and court costs.

H.R.1149 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Protection of Children Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31] (Introduced 02/27/2015)

Committees: House - Foreign Affairs, Judiciary

Latest 03/04/2015 Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 17 - 13.

Action:

Introduced in House (02/27/2015)

Summary:

Amends the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to eliminate the special repatriation requirements for unaccompanied alien children (UAC) who are nationals or residents of a country contiguous to the United States. (Applies the same removal requirements to all UACs who are not victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons and who do not have a fear of returning to their country of nationality or last habitual residence.)

Requires an immigration officer who finds an inadmissible UAC at a land border or port of entry to return the child to his or her country of nationality or of last habitual residence. (Such authority is now only discretionary.)

Authorizes the Secretary of State to negotiate agreements between the United States and other countries for the repatriation of children. (Under current law the Secretary is required to negotiate agreements between the United States and countries contiguous to the United States for the repatriation of children.)

Requires any unaccompanied child who is not a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons, and does not have a fear of returning to his or her country of nationality or last habitual residence, but who is:

- (1) in removal proceedings to have a hearing before an immigration judge within 14 days,
- (2) in federal custody to be transferred to Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) custody within 30 days, and
- (3) in HHS or Department of Homeland Security (DHS) custody to have access to legal counsel at no cost to the government.

Requires:

- (1) HHS, before placing a child with an individual, to provide DHS with the individual's name, Social Security number, date of birth, residence location, and immigration status, if known; and
- (2) DHS to investigate the immigration status of the individual with whom the child is placed, and initiate removal proceedings if that individual is unlawfully present in the United States.

Applies such requirements to any unauthorized child apprehended on or after June 15, 2012.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to: (1) special immigrant juvenile status, and (2) jurisdiction of asylum applications.

H.R.155 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Defund Amnesty Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Marino, Tom [R-PA-10] (Introduced 01/06/2015)

Committees: House - Homeland Security, Judiciary

Latest 02/02/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/06/2015)

Summary:

This bill prohibits the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to implement or enforce specified immigration-related policies in:

- the memoranda issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security on November 20, 2014,
- the memoranda issued by the President on November 21, 2014, and
- any substantially similar memorandum issued after November 21, 2014.

S.291 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Keep Our Communities Safe Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK] (Introduced 01/28/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/28/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/28/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to revise requirements for the detention and removal of aliens ordered removed.

Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) constitutional rights should be upheld and protected, (2) Congress intends to uphold the constitutional principle of due process, and (3) due process of the law is a right afforded to everyone in the United States.

Expands the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to take a criminal alien into custody pending a determination of removability. Provides that the alien, unless eligible for bond release, may be detained without limitation until subject to a final order of removal.

Limits the Attorney General's review of DHS custody determinations to whether the alien may be detained, released with no bond, or released on bond of at least \$1,500.

Limits the Attorney General's review of DHS custody determinations for an alien in certain categories to whether the alien was properly included in such category.

Begins the removal period on the latest of:

- the date the removal order becomes administratively final;
 - the date the alien is taken into DHS custody if the alien is not in DHS custody on the date the removal order becomes administratively final; or
 - if the alien is detained or confined (except under an immigration process) on the date the removal order becomes administratively final, the date the alien is taken into DHS custody after the alien is released from detention or confinement.
- Extends the removal (and detention) period beyond 90 days if:
- the alien fails or refuses to comply with the removal order or to fully cooperate with DHS efforts to establish the alien's identity and carry out the removal order;
 - a court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, or an immigration judge orders a stay of removal of an alien subject to a final removal order;
 - DHS transfers custody of the alien to another federal agency or to a state or local agency; or
 - a court or the Board of Immigration Appeals orders a remand to an immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals while the case is pending a decision on remand.
- Begins a new removal period in the case of such an extended removal on the date:
- (1) the alien makes all reasonable efforts to comply with the removal order or to

cooperate fully with DHS efforts to establish the alien's identity and carry out the removal order, (2) the stay of removal is no longer in effect, or (3) the alien is returned to DHS custody.

- Requires mandatory detention for an alien who is inadmissible or deportable under specified criminal or terrorist grounds.
- Directs the Secretary to establish a detention review process for cooperative aliens
- Authorizes DHS to detain indefinitely, subject to six-month review, an alien under a removal order who cannot be removed if:
 - the alien will be removed in the reasonably foreseeable future;
 - the alien would have been removed but for his or her refusal to cooperate with DHS identification and removal efforts;
 - the alien has a highly contagious disease that poses a public safety threat;
 - release would have serious adverse foreign policy consequences or would threaten national security; or
 - release would threaten the safety of the community or any person and the alien has been convicted of either one or more aggravated felonies or crimes of violence and, because of a mental or personality condition, is likely to engage in future acts of violence.

H.R.1715 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Executive Amnesty Prevention Act

Sponsor: Rep. Ratcliffe, John [R-TX-4] (Introduced 03/26/2015)

Committees: House - Homeland Security, Judiciary

Latest 03/26/2015 Referred to House Homeland Security

Action:

H.R.345 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

To make persons who conspire to commit, commit, or benefit from an act of human trafficking ineligible for admission to the United States of America.

Sponsor: Rep. Grayson, Alan [D-FL-9] (Introduced 01/14/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 02/05/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (01/14/2015)

Summary:

This bill amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to make an alien who commits or conspires to commit a single human trafficking offense (under current law, more than one offense), or assists a trafficker, ineligible for U.S. admission.

Makes the spouse, son, or daughter of such an inadmissible alien also permanently inadmissible if he or she has obtained a financial or other benefit from that alien's illicit activity, regardless of when the benefit was obtained, and knew that the benefit was the product of such illicit activity.

S.45 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Birthright Citizenship Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to consider a person born in the United States "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States for citizenship at birth purposes if the person is born in the United States of parents, one of whom is: (1) a U.S. citizen or national, (2) a lawful permanent resident alien whose residence is in the United States, or (3) an alien performing active service in the U.S. Armed Forces.

States that this Act may not be construed to affect the citizenship or nationality status of any person born before the date of its enactment.

S.129 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Repeal Executive Amnesty Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI] (Introduced 01/08/2015)

Committees: Senate - Finance

Latest 01/08/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/08/2015)

Summary:

This bill shifts from the Attorney General to the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) the authority to parole an alien temporarily into the United States, on a case-by-case basis, and in the Secretary's sole discretion, for an urgent humanitarian reasons or for another reason strictly in the public interest.

A humanitarian parole is limited to:

- a medical emergency or organ or tissue donation in certain circumstances; or
- a situation in which a close family member in the United States is dying and the alien could not arrive in the United States, through the normal visa process, in time to see that family member alive.

A public interest parole is limited to instances where the alien has assisted the U.S. government in a matter, such as a criminal investigation, espionage, or other similar law

enforcement activity, and either the government requires the alien's U.S. presence or the alien's life would be threatened if not permitted to come to the United States. Aliens found ineligible for refugee status may not be paroled.

No funds may be used to implement specified memoranda from the President, the Secretary, the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or other related memoranda.

The head of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) may not appoint an individual to any position in the USCIS until after the President rescinds specified memoranda.

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 is amended to eliminate the special repatriation requirements for unaccompanied alien children (UACs) who are nationals or residents of a country contiguous to the United States, and so apply to them the same removal requirements applied to all UACs who are not victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons and who do not have a fear of returning to their country of nationality or last habitual residence.

Any inadmissible UAC at a land border or port of entry, who fails to meet these victim criteria, must be returned to his or her country of nationality or of last habitual residence. The Secretary of State's authority to negotiate agreements between the United States and countries contiguous to the United States for the repatriation of children is extended to agreements with any country, contiguous or not.

Procedural rights are specified for UACs who are not victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons, and who do not fear returning to his or her country of nationality or last habitual residence.

HHS must inform DHS about children apprehended during a specified period before enactment of this Act who are placed with an individual, and DHS must investigate the immigration status of that individual, and, if the individual is unlawfully present in the United States, initiate removal proceedings.

Paroled aliens cannot receive benefits under either the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 or the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

State and local law enforcement personnel are authorized to investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain, or transfer aliens to federal custody in order to enforce federal, state, or local immigration laws. State and local law enforcement personnel will enjoy immunity from personal liability in the performance of such duties.

The Immigration and Nationality Act is amended to prescribe procedural requirements for the transfer from state or local to federal custody of inadmissible or deportable aliens. Appropriations are authorized for FY2015 and subsequent fiscal years for the incarceration of undocumented criminal aliens.

Bureau Of Justice Assistance, public safety, and community policing grants under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as well as compensation for the

incarceration of undocumented criminal aliens, is denied to any state or local government that has in place a law or policy contravening the information collection and sharing requirements of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

ICE may issue detainers to detain aliens arrested by a federal, state, or local law enforcement official for violations of any law, not just one relating to controlled substances.

The interoperable electronic data system ("Chimera system") under the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002, which gives current, immediate access to information in federal law enforcement databases and the intelligence community relevant to an alien's admissibility or deportability, must also include the operation of the Secure Communities program. DHS must issue a detainer, take a deportable alien into custody, and initiate removal proceedings upon receiving notice under the interoperable law enforcement and intelligence electronic data system that a deportable alien is in federal, state, or local custody.

The Immigration and Nationality Act is further amended to specify that:

- in no instance shall the government bear any expense for counsel for any person in removal proceedings or appealing from any such proceedings,
- an alien's statements must be true more probably than not in order to establish a credible fear of persecution in an asylum interview, and
- the prerequisite of a bilateral or multilateral agreement is eliminated as a condition for the possible removal to a safe third country in response to an alien's application for asylum in the United States.

DHS must establish quality assurance procedures and take steps to ensure that:

- questions by DHS employees exercising expedited removal authority are asked in a uniform manner, and
- both these questions and the answers are recorded in a uniform fashion.

Department of Justice authority is suspended until January 20, 2017, for waiver of the inadmissibility of any alien unlawfully present in the United States who is the spouse or son or daughter of a U.S. citizen or of a lawful permanent resident alien.

Requirements are modified for the temporary protected status of aliens whose return to a foreign country would expose them to a serious threat to their personal safety.

H.R.841 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

New Illegal Deduction Elimination Act

Sponsor: Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4] (Introduced 02/10/2015)

Committees: House - Education and the Workforce, Ways and Means, Judiciary

Latest 03/16/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border

Action: Security.

Introduced in House (02/10/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to deny a tax deduction for wages and benefits paid to or on behalf of an unauthorized alien. Extends to six years the period for assessing and collecting underpayments of tax due to deductions claimed for wages paid to unauthorized aliens.

Directs the Commissioner of Social Security and the Secretaries of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Treasury to jointly establish a program to share information that may lead to the identification of unauthorized aliens. Requires the Secretary of the Treasury to provide taxpayer identity information to the Commissioner of Social Security and the DHS Secretary on employers who paid nondeductible wages to unauthorized aliens and on the aliens to whom such wages were paid.

Amends the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to: (1) make permanent the E-Verify Program for verifying the employment eligibility of alien workers, (2) apply such program to current employees in addition to new hires, (3) establish a rebuttable presumption that employers who participate in the E-Verify Program and obtain confirmation of identity and employment eligibility have not violated hiring requirements under such Act, and (4) allow employers participating in the E-Verify Program to make a conditional offer of employment pending final verification of the identity and employment eligibility of the job applicant.

H.R.861 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40] (Introduced 02/11/2015)

Committees: House - Appropriations, Budget

Latest 02/11/2015 Referred to House Budget

Action:

Notes: For further action, see H.R.240, which became Public Law 114-4 on 3/4/2015.

Introduced in House (02/11/2015)

Summary:

Provides FY2015 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Provides appropriations for Departmental Management and Operations for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management, the Office of the Under Secretary for Management, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Analysis and Operations, and the Office of Inspector General. Provides appropriations for Security, Enforcement, and Investigations for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Transportation Security Administration, the Coast Guard, and the U.S. Secret Service.

Provides appropriations for Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for the National Protection and Programs Directorate, the Office of Health Affairs, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Provides appropriations for Research, Development, Training, and Services for U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Science and Technology, and the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office.
Sets forth permissible, restricted, and prohibited uses for funds provided by this Act.
Rescinds specified amounts previously appropriated to DHS.

S.44 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

A bill to provide for the expedited processing of unaccompanied alien children illegally entering the United States, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Amends the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to declare that any unaccompanied alien child (UAC) who has not been a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons or does not have a credible fear of persecution on returning to his or her country of nationality (or of last habitual residence) shall be: (1) placed in removal proceedings, (2) eligible for voluntary departure at no cost to the child, and (3) provided with access to counsel. (Currently such expedited removal requirements apply only to unaccompanied children from countries contiguous to the United States.)
Directs the Secretary of State to negotiate repatriation agreements between the United States and countries from which large numbers of UACs are unlawfully entering the United States. (Currently such agreements are to be negotiated between the United States and countries contiguous to the United States.)

Requires that a UAC be placed on a return flight to his or her country of nationality (or of last habitual residence) within 72 hours of screening barring cost, feasibility, and any relevant repatriation agreements.

Provides for expedited removal of a UAC who is a member of, or affiliated with, a criminal street gang.

Requires mandatory Department of Homeland Security (DHS) detention of a UAC apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement until the child: (1) voluntarily departs or is removed from the United States, or (2) is admitted as a refugee or asylee.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to require an immigration judge to: (1) conduct a proceeding to inspect and determine the status of a UAC who is an applicant for U.S. admission not later than 7 days after the child's screening, and (2) determine within 72 hours of the proceeding's conclusion whether a UAC is admissible (or eligible

for relief from removal) or should be removed (unless the alien claims asylum or a substantial fear of persecution).

States that: (1) if a UAC intends to make a claim of asylum or substantial fear of persecution the child shall be referred to an asylum officer who shall determine in an interview whether there is a substantial fear of persecution, and (2) if there is no substantiated fear of persecution the UAC shall be ordered removed without further hearing or review.

Revises the definition of "refugee."

Requires DHS detention of an alien seeking asylum until the alien is removed or granted asylum.

Extends the bar on U.S. reentry to 10 years for previously removed aliens and for certain aliens who were illegally in the United States but voluntarily departed.

Requires the Secretary of DHS to report to Congress annually detailing apprehended illegal aliens, voluntary departures, removals, and grants of refugee or asylee status.

H.R.1153 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [R-UT-3] (Introduced 02/27/2015)

Committees: House - Foreign Affairs, Judiciary

Latest 03/18/2015 Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 21 - 12.

Action:

Introduced in House (02/27/2015)

Summary:

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to prohibit the government from bearing any expense of counsel for any person in a removal or related appeal proceedings.

Adds an additional requirement in order to establish a credible fear of persecution claim in an asylum interview.

Limits humanitarian and public interest parole authority.

Prohibits the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) from using parole authority for an alien who is ineligible for refugee status.

Amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to revise the definition of "unaccompanied alien child."

Amends the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to extend the period of time for a federal department or agency to: (1) notify the

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that it has apprehended or discovered a UAC or an alien who is under 18 years old, and (2) transfer a UAC to HHS custody. Provides for HHS-DHS information sharing concerning UACs.

Prohibits an unaccompanied alien child (UAC) from applying for asylum if such child may be removed to a safe third country.

Provides for additional immigration judges and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement attorneys.

Directs the Secretary of State to suspend all foreign assistance to certain countries that refuse to: (1) negotiate a child repatriation agreement, or (2) accept from the United States repatriated UACs who are nationals or residents of the sending country. Directs the Secretary of State to provide certain foreign assistance for repatriation and reintegration purposes.

Places the burden of proof on an alien to establish that: (1) the alien's life or freedom would be threatened in a country to which he or she is scheduled to be removed to from the United States; and (2) that race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion would be at least one central reason for such threat.

Makes inadmissible an alien who has committed acts of torture, extrajudicial killings, war crimes, systematic attacks on civilians, persecution, or enforced disappearance of persons. Authorizes the President to make such alien's visa records public.

Terminates the refugee or asylee status of an alien who:

- without a compelling reason returns to the country of such alien's nationality or, in the case of an alien having no nationality, returns to the country in which such alien last habitually resided; and
- applied for such status because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Makes such provision inapplicable to an alien who is eligible for adjustment to lawful permanent resident status pursuant to the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966.

Allows up to 500 grants of asylum per fiscal year to families fleeing home school persecution.

Requires that a written warning be included in an asylum application advising the alien of the consequences of filing a frivolous application.

States that if an alien's asylum status is subject to termination the immigration judge shall first determine whether the termination conditions have been met, and if so, terminate the alien's asylum status before considering whether the alien is eligible for adjustment of status.

H.R.29 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Separation of Powers Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2] (Introduced 01/06/2015)

Committees: House - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H95)

Action:

Introduced in House (01/06/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to any federal department or agency to:

- parole an alien into the United States or grant deferred action on a final order of removal for any reason other than on an individual case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons; or
- issue to an alien who is unlawfully present in the United States any document attesting to such alien's lawful permanent resident status or U.S. employment authorization.

S.47 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

A bill to prohibit the implementation of any program that grants temporary legal status to, or adjusts the status of, any individual who is unlawfully present in the United States until the Secretary...

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits the implementation of any program that grants temporary legal status to, or adjusts the status of, any individual who is unlawfully present in the United States until the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) certifies to the President and to Congress that the integrated entry and exit data system (US-VISIT) has been fully implemented at every land, sea, and air port of entry.

H.R.240 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Rogers, Harold [R-KY-5] (Introduced 01/09/2015)

Committees: House - Appropriations, Budget

Latest 03/04/2015 Became Public Law No: 114-4.

Action:

Highlights:

The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 provides FY2015 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), including U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Secret Service, and other DHS programs. The Act increases total funding for the bill compared to the FY2014 funding level. Compared to FY2014 levels, the Act increases funding for CBP, ICE, and the U.S. Secret Service.

The Act decreases funding below FY2014 levels for the TSA and the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Act does not include House-passed amendments that prohibit funding from being used for several immigration policies that the Administration is implementing by executive action.

H.R.439 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Illegal Entry Accountability Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14] (Introduced 01/21/2015)

Committees: House - Foreign Affairs

Latest 01/21/2015 Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Action:

Introduced in House (01/21/2015)

Summary:

Directs the Secretary of State to suspend all U.S. foreign assistance to Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, except for assistance under the international narcotic control law enforcement program.

Allows reinstatement of assistance only if Congress determines that Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador have taken sufficient action to mitigate unlawful U.S.-Mexico border crossings by their respective citizens.

S.642 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Human Trafficking Survivors Relief and Empowerment Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] (Introduced 03/03/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest 03/03/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Action:

Summary: A bill to aid human trafficking victims' recovery and rehabilitation.

S.178 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX] (Introduced 01/13/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: 03/19/2015 Motion by Senator McConnell to reconsider the vote by which the second cloture motion was not invoked on S. 178 (Roll Call Vote No. 76) entered in Senate.

Introduced in Senate (01/13/2015)

Summary:

This bill amends the federal criminal code, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance protections and increase restitution for victims of human trafficking.

The bill imposes an additional penalty of \$5,000 on any non-indigent person or entity convicted of a crime involving: (1) peonage, slavery, or trafficking in persons; (2) sexual abuse; (3) sexual exploitation and other abuse of children; (4) transportation for illegal sexual activity; or (5) human smuggling in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The bill also establishes the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund and directs that revenues from the penalty be deposited into such Fund and used in FY2016-FY2020 to award grants or enhance victims' programming and provide services for victims of child pornography. The bill adds a prohibition against the use of amounts in the Fund, with specified exceptions, for any abortion or health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion.

The Department of Health and Human Services is directed to issue a determination, based on credible evidence, that a U.S. citizen or permanent resident is a victim of a severe form of trafficking.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) is authorized to award block grants to develop, improve, or expand domestic child human trafficking deterrence programs that assist law enforcement and other entities in rescuing and restoring the lives of trafficking victims, while investigating and prosecuting offenses involving child human trafficking. The bill expands the definition of "child abuse" under the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 to include human trafficking and the production of child pornography and expands criminal sanctions to include persons who patronize or solicit children for commercial sex acts (buyers).

The bill increases compensation and restitution under the federal criminal code for victims of human trafficking and classifies producers of child pornography as engaged in illicit sexual conduct involving human trafficking.

Combat Human Trafficking Act of 2015

Under this Act, DOJ is required to ensure that each DOJ anti-human trafficking program includes technical training on investigating and prosecuting persons who obtain, patronize, or solicit commercial sex acts involving a person subject to severe forms of trafficking in persons. The Act also requires the Bureau of Justice Statistics of DOJ to prepare and submit annual reports on state enforcement of human trafficking prohibitions.

The bill directs DOJ to: (1) ensure that all task forces and working groups within the Innocence Lost National Initiative engage in activities, programs, or operations to increase the investigative capabilities of law enforcement personnel in investigating and prosecuting persons who patronize or solicit children for sex; and (2) audit grants awarded under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005.

Finally, the bill imposes restrictions and reporting requirements on DOJ conferences that use more than \$20,000 in DOJ funds and prohibits grant recipients under this Act from lobbying any representative of DOJ or a state, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

H.R.399 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Secure Our Borders First Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10] (Introduced 01/16/2015)

Committees: House - Natural Resources, Armed Services, Homeland Security, Agriculture

Committee H. Rept. 114-10

Reports:

Latest Action: 01/27/2015 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 6.

Reported to House amended, Part I (01/27/2015)

Summary:

(Sec. 2) Directs the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to submit Border Security Verification Commission (BSVC) and Government Accountability Office reports, at specified intervals, that assess the state of situational awareness and operational control along the northern and southern U.S. land borders, including an identification of the high traffic areas and the unlawful border crossing effectiveness rate for each sector along such borders that are within the responsibility of the Border Patrol.

Requires the Comptroller General to report to Congress and the BSVC regarding the verification of the data and methodology used to determine high traffic areas and the unlawful border crossing effectiveness rate.

(Sec. 3) Directs DHS to: (1) submit and implement an operational plan to gain and maintain situational awareness and operational control of high traffic areas within two years after enactment of this Act and operational control and situational awareness along

the southern border within five years; and (2) notify Congress that such objectives have been obtained and maintained, which notification shall be certified by the BSVC. Specifies: (1) additional capabilities to be deployed within one year after enactment of this Act to the San Diego, El Centro, Yuma, Tucson, El Paso, Big Bend, Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley sectors and the Eastern Pacific and Caribbean and Gulf Maritime regions to achieve situational awareness and operational control of the southern border; (2) fencing to be constructed or replaced within 18 months after enactment of this Act in the Border Patrol's San Diego, El Centro, Yuma, Tucson, Rio Grande Valley, Del Rio, El Centro, Yuma, El Paso, and Big Bend sectors; (3) road construction or maintenance projects to be completed within 18 months after enactment of this Act in the San Diego, El Centro, Yuma, Tucson, Big Bend, El Paso, Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley sectors; (4) boat ramps to be constructed in the Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande Valley sectors; (5) access gates to be constructed in the Rio Grande Valley sector; and (6) forward operating bases to be constructed in the El Paso, Tucson, Big Bend, Del Rio, Laredo, and Rio Grande sectors.

Directs the Border Patrol to coordinate with the heads of each relevant federal and state agency to eradicate the Carrizo cane plant along the Rio Grande River.

Requires: (1) the Border Patrol to develop metrics to measure the effectiveness of security between ports of entry, (2) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to develop metrics to measure the effectiveness of security at ports of entry, (3) the Coast Guard and the CBP to jointly implement metrics to measure the effectiveness of security in the maritime environment, and (4) the CBP to implement metrics to measure the effectiveness of security in the aviation environment. Requires the BSVC to assess and the Comptroller General to report on the statistical validity of the data and methodology used to develop such metrics.

(Sec. 4) Establishes the BSVC and a special congressional commission on border security to determine the criteria for recommending the three presidential appointees to the BSVC. Terminates the BSVC after determining the accuracy of the tenth annual metrics submission required under this Act.

(Sec. 5) Directs the Border Patrol to impose a consequence for each alien apprehended pursuant to the Border Patrol's Consequence Delivery System.

(Sec. 6) Requires the Border Patrol to: (1) direct its agents to patrol as close to the physical land border as possible, consistent with the accessibility to such areas; and (2) deploy the maximum practicable number of agents to forward operating bases along the U.S. southern land border to meet this Act's requirements.

(Sec. 7) Authorizes the Border Patrol to alter the capability deployment requirements of this Act: (1) for the southern border upon determining that the principal border security threats require alteration, and (2) for the northern border upon determining that the threat analysis required under this Act requires such alteration.

(Sec. 8) Authorizes the Department of Defense (DOD) to allocate additional DOD aviation assets to the southern border to assist DHS in achieving situational awareness and operational control.

(Sec. 9) Sets personnel levels for Border Patrol active duty agents, CBP's Office of Field Operations officers, and CBP's Office of Air and Marine agents.

(Sec. 10) Requires: (1) DHS to ensure not fewer than 130,000 annual flight hours of the Office of Air and Marine, and (2) the Office of Air and Marine to operate unmanned aerial systems not less than 16 hours per day, seven days per week. Directs such Office to report annually, describing the number of hours the Office operated unmanned aerial systems in a transit zone, on a land border, or on a maritime border or to assist other law enforcement agencies.

(Sec. 11) Requires the Office of Air and Marine to assign the greatest prioritization to support Border Patrol requests to gain and maintain situational awareness and operational control of high traffic areas and operational control and situational awareness along the southern border.

(Sec. 12) Authorizes the Border Patrol to transfer its agents, on a voluntary basis, to high traffic areas and to provide an incentive bonus for any such transfer.

(Sec. 13) Prohibits the Departments of the Interior or Agriculture from impeding, prohibiting, or restricting CBP activities on federal land located within 100 miles of the U.S. border with Mexico and the U.S. border with Canada to execute search and rescue operations and to prevent all unlawful entries into the United States.

Makes DHS's waiver on April 1, 2008, under the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 of specified environmental and other laws applicable to all such federal land.

(Sec. 14) Directs DHS: (1) to submit an implementation plan to establish a biometric exit data system to complete the integrated biometric entry and exit data system; (2) within two years after enactment of this Act, to establish a biometric exit data system at the 15 U.S. airports and the 15 U.S. seaports that support the highest volume of international air and sea travel and at the 15 U.S. land ports of entry that support the highest volume of pedestrian crossings; and (3) within five years, to expand such system to all land, air, and sea ports of entry. Requires DHS to ensure that the collection of biometric data causes the least possible disruption to the movement of people or cargo in air, sea, or land transportation, while fulfilling the goals of improving counterterrorism efforts and identifying visa holders who violate the terms of their visas. Prohibits DHS from requiring any non-federal person to collect biometric data pursuant to the biometric exit data system, except through a contractual agreement.

Requires DHS to: (1) terminate the proceeding entitled "Collection of Alien Biometric Data Upon Exit From the United States at Air and Sea Ports of Departure," and (2) submit reports and recommendations of DHS's Science and Technology Directorate's Air Entry and Exit Re-Engineering Program and of CBP's entry and exit mobility program demonstrations.

Prohibits travel, training, bonuses, or salary increases for DHS political appointees if the metrics requirements, the objectives relating to the achievement of situational awareness and operational control, or the biometric exit data system requirements are not met.

(Sec. 15) Directs DHS to submit a northern border threat analysis, which shall include an analysis of:

- current and potential terrorism threats posed by individuals seeking to enter the United States through the northern border;
- improvements needed at ports of entry along the northern border to prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States;
- gaps in law, policy, international agreements, or tribal agreements that hinder the border security and counter-terrorism efforts along the northern border; and
- unlawful cross border activity between ports of entry, including the maritime borders of the Great Lakes.

Specifies additional capabilities to be deployed within 18 months after enactment of this Act to the Blaine, Spokane, Havre, Grand Forks, Detroit, Buffalo, Swanton, and Houlton sectors of the northern border.

(Sec. 16) Amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in DHS a program known as Operation Stonegarden, under which DHS shall make grants to law enforcement agencies in a state bordering Canada or Mexico or a state or territory with a maritime border to enhance border security. Requires an eligible law enforcement agency to be involved in an active ongoing CBP operation coordinated through a sector office. Permits a recipient to use a grant for equipment, personnel (including overtime and backfill) in support of enhanced border law enforcement activities, and any activity permitted under DHS's FY2014 Funding Opportunity Announcement for Operation Stonegarden. Authorizes appropriations for such grants for FY2015-FY2019.

(Sec. 17) Authorizes the sale or donation of certain excess personal property of DOD for border security activities.

(Sec. 18) Directs DOD to reimburse states for the cost of the deployment of any National Guard units or personnel to perform operations and missions under State Active Duty status in support of a southern border mission, subject to a specified cap.

(Sec. 19) Directs the Border Patrol to: (1) operate using intelligence-based operations to combat terrorist and transnational criminal threats along the international borders of the United States; and (2) coordinate with international, federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement partners.

(Sec. 20) Defines terms used in this Act, including defining "situational awareness" as knowledge and an understanding of current unlawful cross-border activity, the ability to forecast future shifts in such threats and trends, and the operational capability to conduct continuous and integrated surveillance of such borders.

(Sec. 21) Authorizes appropriations for FY2016-FY2025 to carry out this Act.

H.R.300 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

SMART Border Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2] (Introduced 01/13/2015)

Committees: House - Armed Services, Homeland Security, Agriculture, Energy and

Commerce, Rules

Latest Action: 01/28/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.

Summary:

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to: (1) take actions to achieve and maintain operational control of the U.S.-Mexico border (defined as a condition in which all illegal border crossers are apprehended and narcotics and other contraband are seized); and (2) report to the Comptroller General on such actions, achievement, and maintenance.

Directs the Comptroller General, within 90 days after such report is submitted, to: (1) consult with state and local officials along such border regarding such operational control; and (2) report on such operational control to specified congressional committees. Requires the House of Representatives and the Senate to vote on a joint resolution on the question of whether such report should be disapproved within 90 days of receiving it or such joint resolution shall be deemed passed. Requires the Comptroller General to submit an annual report on such operational control.

Directs the Secretary of Defense (DOD) to: (1) deploy up to an additional 10,000 members of the National Guard along the U.S.-Mexico border as requested by border states; and (2) provide funds to the governor of a state who submits a state border control activities plan that is approved by the Secretary and that specifies how personnel of the National Guard of such state are to be used in border control activities. Authorizes National Guard personnel to be ordered to carry out border control activities. Authorizes: (1) the DHS Secretary to deploy smart border technologies if necessary to achieve and maintain such operational control; and (2) the Defense Secretary to transfer specified eligible equipment returned from DOD operations to federal, state, and local agencies, with preference to agencies that will use such equipment primarily to strengthen border security.

Requires the DHS Secretary: (1) if such a joint resolution of disapproval on operational control passes, to appoint an additional 1,500 Border Patrol agents; (2) make grants to sheriffs' departments along the border in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and California to hire additional deputies; and (3) establish the biometric entry and exit data system required under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. Authorizes the DHS Secretary to make competitive grants for public-private partnerships that finance equipment and infrastructure to improve the public safety of residents of U.S. rural areas near the border by enhancing access to mobile communications for such persons.

Directs the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to ensure that an individual who is apprehended unlawfully crossing, or attempting to unlawfully cross, the border into the United States is counted only once for purposes of counting border apprehensions.

H.R.1200 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

American Health Security Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7] (Introduced 03/02/2015)

Committees: House - Education and the Workforce, Oversight and Government Reform, Ways and Means, Armed Services, Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: 03/06/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Introduced in House (03/02/2015)

Summary:

Expresses the sense of the House of Representatives concerning recognition of health care as a human right.

Establishes the State-Based American Health Security Program to provide every U.S. resident who is a U.S. citizen, national, or lawful resident alien with health care services. Requires each participating state to establish a state health security program. Eliminates benefits under: (1) titles XVIII (Medicare), XIX (Medicaid), and XXI (Children's Health Insurance) (CHIP) of the Social Security Act; (2) the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program; and (3) TRICARE.

Repeals requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) related to health insurance coverage, including requirements concerning state health insurance exchanges.

Requires each state health security program to prohibit the sale of health insurance in that state that duplicates benefits provided under the program.

Establishes the American Health Security Standards Board to: (1) develop policies, procedures, guidelines and requirements to carry out this Act; (2) establish uniform reporting requirements and quality performance standards; (3) provide for an American Health Security Advisory Council and an Advisory Committee on Health Professional Education; and (4) establish a national health security budget specifying the total federal and state expenditures to be made for covered health care services.

Establishes the American Health Security Quality Council to: (1) review and evaluate practice guidelines, standards of quality, performance measures, and medical review criteria; and (2) develop minimum competence criteria. Establishes the Office of Primary Care and Prevention Research within the Office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health. Creates the American Health Security Trust Fund and appropriates to it specified tax liabilities and current health program receipts, including premium assistance credit amounts under PPACA.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to impose on individuals: (1) a health care income tax, and (2) an income tax surcharge on amounts of modified adjusted gross income

exceeding \$1 million. Imposes an excise tax on securities transactions and allows an income tax credit for such taxes.

S.Amdt.284 to S.Amdt.271 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Description: To amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth.

Amends [S.178](#)

Bill:

Sponsor: [Sen. Vitter, David \[R-LA\]](#) (Submitted 03/10/2015) (Proposed 03/11/2015)

Purpose:

To amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth.

S.750 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Arizona Borderlands Protection and Preservation Act

Sponsor: [Sen. McCain, John \[R-AZ\]](#) (Introduced 03/17/2015)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: 03/17/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Introduced in Senate (03/17/2015)

Summary:

This bill directs the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Department of the Interior to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel with access to federal lands for security activities, including: (1) routine motorized patrols; and (2) deployment of communications, surveillance, and detection equipment.

Interior and USDA may provide education and training to CBP personnel on the natural and cultural resources present on individual federal land units.

Access authority shall not apply to private or state-owned land within federal land boundaries.

H.R.61 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Securing the Assistance of Victims of Exploitation Act of 2015 (SAVE Act)

Sponsor: [Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila \[D-TX-18\]](#) (Introduced 01/06/2015)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: 01/26/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

Introduced in House (01/06/2015)

Summary:

Prohibits funds made available to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 from being used in contravention of provisions of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 expanding the eligibility of human trafficking victims to receive services and benefits under certain federal or state programs, such as the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program).

S.46 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

A bill to reduce the amount of financial assistance provided to the Government of Mexico in response to the illegal border crossings from Mexico into the United States, which serve to dissipate the...

Sponsor: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA] (Introduced 01/07/2015)

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations

Latest Action: 01/07/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Introduced in Senate (01/07/2015)

Summary:

Directs the Secretary of State to: (1) annually estimate the number of illegal border crossings along the southern U.S. land border, and (2) reduce financial assistance to the government of Mexico by a total of \$1,000 for each illegal border crossing from Mexico to the United States during the previous fiscal year.

Authorizes the Secretary to not reduce appropriations for the government of Mexico from the International Military Education and Training Fund, the International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Fund, and the fund to carry out nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining, and related programs and activities.

S.392 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

Stop Drugs at the Border Act of 2015

Sponsor: Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN] (Introduced 02/05/2015)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: 02/05/2015 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Introduced in Senate (02/05/2015)

Summary:

Directs the Office of National Drug Control Policy to ensure that the first update of the National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy published after enactment of this Act specifically addresses any increased heroin and methamphetamine trafficking occurring along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

Requires U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to report on any new resources needed by CBP and its law enforcement partners to respond to such increased trafficking, including any technology, equipment, personnel, or funding needed.

H.R.997 — 114th Congress (2015-2016)

English Language Unity Act of 2015

Sponsor: Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4] (Introduced 02/13/2015)

Committees: House - Education and the Workforce, Judiciary

Latest Action: 03/16/2015 Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Introduced in House (02/13/2015)

Summary:

Establishes English as the official language of the United States.

Requires naturalization ceremonies and official functions of the U.S. government, subject to exceptions, to be conducted in English.

Declares that all citizens should be able to read and understand generally the English language text of U.S. laws.

Allows a person injured by a violation of this Act to obtain relief, including a declaratory judgment, in a civil action.

Declares that English language requirements and workplace policies, whether in the public or private sector, shall be presumptively consistent with U.S. laws. Requires any ambiguity in U.S. laws to be resolved in accordance with the rights retained by the people and the powers reserved to states under the Bill of Rights.

Directs the Department of Homeland Security to issue a proposed rule for uniform testing of the English language ability of candidates for naturalization based upon the principles that: (1) all citizens should be able to read and understand generally the English language text of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the laws of the United States; and (2) any exceptions to this standard should be limited to extraordinary circumstances, such as asylum.