



National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

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The Goodlatte and Compromise Immigration Bills in the House of Representatives

Both bills would significantly increase punitive immigration enforcement personnel, operations and machinery; they would not end the separation of families nor provide clear access to permanent residency for DACA recipients

KEY PROVISIONS

HR 4760 – Securing America’s Future Act (the Goodlatte bill)

- Ends the Diversity Visa Program
- Authorizes border wall construction, beefs up technology and other enforcement support, including biometric entry-exit system.
- Would add 5,000 Border Patrol and 5,000 Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents, and authorizes the National Guard for border security activities
- Increases criminalization of immigrants, tightens access to asylum; increases detention of undocumented immigrants and expedites deportations.
- Would withhold federal law enforcement grants from “sanctuary” cities.
- Reduces overall annual immigration by 25%, closes some categories for family-based visas and increase levels for “merit-based” visas; expands exploitative guestworker visas for farmworkers.
- Make electronic verification (E-verify) mandatory for employers.
- Would provide for a 3-year, renewable status for early childhood arrivals, but no path to a green card.

HR 6136 Border Security and Immigration Reform Act (the compromise bill)

- Ends the Diversity Visa Program.
- Provides almost \$25 billion for the border wall and militarization of the southwest border region.
- Authorizes over 50,000 CBP agents and a 30% increase in Border Patrol agent.
- Increases discretionary criminalization of young immigrants as “gang members”.
- Increases the standard of proof for asylum seekers, which could halve the number of asylum seekers.
- The bill addresses family separations by incarcerating children and parents together, potentially for prolonged periods of time. Family immigration jails would be expanded.
- Eliminates two categories for family reunification visas – categories which have had the longest wait lines for U.S. citizens to reunite with their married adult children and siblings abroad.
- Limited protections for Dreamers, based on a confusing point system; ties adjustment of status to border funds. Estimated 82% of Dreamers won’t benefit from a path to citizenship.
- Mandates local governments to implement ICE detainers; the perception of local police cooperation could reduce cooperation among victims and witnesses and make everyone less safe.