

Oregonians for Immigration Reform
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OFIR Newsletter, September 2010

The next meeting for OFIR members and supporters will be held at 2:00 p.m., on Sunday, October 17, in Salem, at the Best Western Mill Creek Inn, 3125 Ryan Dr. SE, located across the street from Costco, just off of Mission St. See driving directions at end. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend.

At OFIR's meeting in July, two Congressional candidates spoke: **Jim Huffman, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, running against incumbent Sen. Ron Wyden, and Delia Lopez, Republican candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, 3d Dist., opposing incumbent Earl Blumenauer.** Wyden and Blumenauer are both rated F on their immigration voting records.

Huffman laid out his views clearly and they contrast sharply with those of long-time incumbent Ron Wyden. Huffman gives high priority to immigration issues: he believes that the federal government must enforce the immigration laws and that it's not an impossible task, but one we can resolve as we have resolved many other complex problems. He supports implementation of E-Verify and opposes a general amnesty. Reform should start first with serious border security and limiting access to jobs. He supports the right of states like Arizona to legislate on immigration and thinks Obama made a mistake in suing Arizona. He believes the policy of birthright citizenship is not a good one for the U.S.; he would be willing to introduce a bill calling for change. In answer to an audience question, he concurred that youth should be allowed to help with farm work as they formerly did. In further discussion of E-Verify, he asked why do people rail against the requirement to show identification—citizens have to do it constantly—we expect it. Also he sees no valid reason to resist a requirement for identification of applicants for welfare services. On the Portland City Council's condemnation of Arizona's S.B. 1070, he characterized it as more than a waste of time and money for the city to get involved; the city should not be doing that.

Delia Lopez also spoke emphatically in favor of strong enforcement of immigration laws. On this issue as well as others, she differs starkly with incumbent Earl Blumenauer, who, at F- has the worst grade of any member of the Oregon Congressional delegation, as measured by his votes on immigration issues by NumbersUSA.

At the Oct. 17 meeting we expect to have Rob Cornilles speak. He is running in Cong. Dist. 1 against Rep. David Wu, another long-time incumbent whose record shows nearly constant support of benefits to illegal aliens and lax immigration enforcement.

OFIR'S ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE NOVEMBER 2010 ELECTION

Please note: In making endorsements, OFIR considers immigration issues only, using voting records, candidate websites, personal interviews, and responses to questionnaires. Individuals of course can consider any issues in deciding how to vote.

U.S. Senate – Jim Huffman
Cong. Dist. 1 – Rob Cornilles
Cong. Dist. 2 – Greg Walden
Cong. Dist. 3 – Delia Lopez
Cong. Dist. 4 – Peter DeFazio
Cong. Dist. 5 – Scott Bruun

Governor – Neither major party candidate earns OFIR's endorsement. Kitzhaber openly supports amnesty, and Dudley avoids mention of immigration issues.

Oregon State Senate: (Only a part of the State Senate is up for election this year.)

Dist. 4 – Marilyn Kittleman	Dist. 16 – Bob Horning
Dist. 7 – Karen Bodner	Dist. 19 – Mary Kremer
Dist. 10 – Jackie Winters	Dist. 22 – Dwayne Runyan
Dist. 11 – Mike Forest	Dist. 26 – Chuck Thomsen
Dist. 15 – Bruce Starr	

Oregon House: (All Representatives are up for election this year.)

Dist. 1 – Wayne Krieger	Dist. 25 – Kim Thatcher
Dist. 4 – Dennis Richardson	Dist. 26 – Matt Wingard
Dist. 6 – Sal Esquivel	Dist. 28 – Jeff Barker
Dist. 7 – Bruce Hanna	Dist. 32 – Lew Barnes
Dist. 8 – Simone Gordon	Dist. 34 – Tyler Hill
Dist. 10 – Becky Lemler	Dist. 35 – Gordon Fiddes
Dist. 12 – Sean Van Gordon	Dist. 36 – Diane Schendel
Dist. 15 – Andy Olson	Dist. 37 - Julie Parrish
Dist. 16 – Rose Cook	Dist. 44 – Kitty Harmon
Dist. 17 – Sherrie Sprenger	Dist. 45 – Anne Marie Gurney
Dist. 18 – Vic Gilliam	Dist. 48 – Mike Schaufler
Dist. 21 – Brian Clem	Dist. 50 – Andre Wang
Dist. 22 – Betty Komp	Dist. 53 – Gene Whisnant
Dist. 23 – Jim Thompson	Dist. 56 – Bill Garrard
Dist. 24 – Jim Weidner	

Fiscal Costs of Illegal Immigration to Oregon Taxpayers

In July 2010, the Federation for American Immigration released a report, *The Fiscal Burden of Illegal Immigration on United States Taxpayers*, which included information specific to each of

the 50 states, including Oregon. **OFIR has extracted the Oregon data from the report and posted it on the OFIR website. We include some of the highlights here.**

THE COSTS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION TO OREGON'S STATE AND LOCAL TAXPAYERS ARE ESTIMATED TO BE \$705 MILLION ANNUALLY.

On a per family basis, this amounts to between \$751 and \$1,000 annually per native-headed household. Consider how much more manageable the state budget would be if these expenses were absent from the ledger. As enormous as these figures are, they by no means reflect the total cost to citizens of the presence of thousands of illegal aliens in this state and the toleration of their presence by governments.

Among the areas of expense measured by FAIR, education is the most costly in dollars.

The annual state outlay for K-12 public schooling for children of illegal aliens in Oregon is estimated to be \$425.4 million. **Administration of justice outlays are the next most costly in dollars, amounting to \$111 million annually.** This includes extra costs for police, \$31.7 million; judicial/legal expenses, \$12.5 million; incarceration and related expenses, \$73.4 million. **Oregon spends an estimated total of \$79.7 million annually for medical care to illegal aliens.** This includes Emergency Medicaid for births, \$7.1 million, and \$53.6 million for other Emergency Medicaid. Also, the cost of medical insurance for U.S.-born is figured at \$15.7 million. Requirements under the federal SCHIP program (State Children's Health Insurance Program) cost Oregon another \$3.2 million.

Child care outlays are in addition to medical care. The Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) is a federal program that assists low-income families, families receiving temporary public assistance, and those transitioning from public assistance in obtaining childcare so they can work, attend training, or continue education. **Oregon participates in the program, and FAIR estimates that Oregon spends annually \$22.1 million on this.** The Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program is another federal program that Oregon participates in. **Oregon spends \$9.8 million on this program annually to cover 7,768 "children in families without eligible parents."**

What do illegal aliens pay in taxes? The FAIR study estimates that illegal aliens pay \$17.7 million to Oregon from property taxes and income taxes -- \$13.2 million in property taxes, and \$4.4 million in income taxes.

Obama Administration Hostile to Enforcing Immigration Laws

Reports from responsible observers in Washington and elsewhere tell that the Obama Administration is further weakening what was already inadequate enforcement of the immigration laws. In addition, his Justice Dept. is suing Arizona to prevent it from enforcing its

state law that would curb illegal immigration. Obama's appointees in ICE and CIS have written proposals to grant amnesties administratively, bypassing Congress which, under our Constitution, is supposed to create the federal immigration laws.

It becomes more critical than ever that citizens be informed about the voting records of legislators and the policy stands of candidates for election. OFIR's candidate endorsements for the Nov. 2 election were carefully made, based on replies to candidate questionnaires sent by OFIR, on documented voting records in Congress as reported by NumbersUSA, and on OFIR's experience in dealing with state legislators in every session since 2001.

Please share the OFIR endorsements with your family, friends, acquaintances, and help endorsed candidates to get elected. Money is useful, but legwork such as putting up signs, distributing leaflets, etc. is important too and needed. Campaign websites with contact information are easy to find through computer search agents such as Bing or Google, or call your local public library.

California Now the Least-Educated State – Immigration has transformed California from a state that in 1970 had the 7th most educated work force of the 50 states, into the state with the **least** educated work force in 2008. In 1970, 9% of the population was comprised of immigrants; by 2008 it was 27%. – Source: Report by the Center for Immigration Studies, June 2010, based on U.S. Census statistics.

American Legion Opposes Amnesty – The American Legion's National Commander, Clarence Hill, on July 28 issued a strong statement, "Amnesty won't work: Secure our borders" criticizing moves for amnesty and offering its "common-sense strategy to address illegal immigration without offering amnesty ..." <http://www.legion.org/citizenship/89683/amnesty-wont-work-secure-our-borders>

PLEASE COME TO THE OFIR MEETING, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2 p.m.

Driving directions to Best Western Mill Creek Inn:

From I-5, take exit 253, which is the intersection of I-5 and State roads 22 and Business 99E. Go West on 22 (Mission St.) a short distance to Hawthorne Ave. Turn R on Hawthorne Ave. to the first left, which is Ryan Drive. Turn left on Ryan Drive, by Denny's Restaurant, and proceed to Mill Creek Inn just beyond.

From downtown Salem: Go east on Mission St. (State Rd. 22). Follow 22 just past the Airport and turn left on Hawthorne Ave. Then take the first left (almost an immediate left) into Ryan Drive; you will see the Inn directly ahead.

STOP AMNESTY NOW - LATE BREAKING NEWS – September 17, 2010

In a press conference in the Capitol on Tuesday, 9/14/2010, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) announced that he will offer the **DREAM Act amnesty bill (S.729)** as an amendment to the Department of Defense Authorization Bill. We include below a summary by the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), Washington DC, of the situation now:

“Like previous versions of the DREAM Act, S.729 will grant amnesty to illegal aliens who entered the U.S. as minors and meet certain educational requirements or serve in the military. In particular, the bill grants immediate legal status to illegal aliens who have merely enrolled in an institution of higher education, or have received a high school diploma. And, while S.729 conditions the ultimate granting of legal permanent residence status upon finishing 2 years at an institution of higher learning or two years in the military, the bill allows Homeland Security, ‘in the Secretary’s discretion’ to waive these requirements in their entirety upon the showing of hardship.

“In the press conference, Reid described the beneficiaries of this bill as ‘kids’ and ‘boys and girls,’ but S.729 allows illegal aliens up to the age of 35 to be eligible to receive amnesty and qualify for federal student loans. Moreover, S.729 also allows states to provide in-state tuition to illegal aliens—at a time when many Americans can’t afford to send their own students to college. Finally, as a result of S.729, those who receive amnesty may petition for their relatives to be admitted to the U.S. as soon as they reach the age of 21.”

Others who have examined the text of the DREAM Act point out that **it is open to gigantic fraud** because the 2, 3, or 4 million illegal aliens applying need only CLAIM to meet the requirements. They don’t have to PROVE anything. **The burden is on the government to verify claims of the applications, one by one.** This will be a prohibitively expensive process, undoubtedly resulting in administrative shortcuts and massive fraud.

The DREAM Act ignores the need to bolster enforcement of the immigration laws at the borders and in the interior of the country. It makes no provision to prevent employers from continuing to hire illegal aliens newly arriving or already here.

Another shocker: there is no ending date or deadline for applications. The DREAM Act is a permanent opening for illegal aliens. This bill invites the world to enter the U.S. illegally, bring their families and settle down.

Only the determined and vocal opposition of U.S. citizens can stop this harmful bill. We must demand that our legislators vote NO to the DREAM Act, and to any watered-down version of it. **Please call, write, or visit your Senators’ offices now! Contact information is listed below.**

A House version of the DREAM Act has been introduced which is similar to the Senate bill. It is advisable to inform Oregon Representatives also of your opposition.

All amnesties cause further increases in illegal immigration. We want immigration ENFORCEMENT, not another amnesty! Stop the DREAM Act nightmare!

OREGON'S U.S. SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

You can reach the Washington office of any Senator or Representative by calling one of these toll-free numbers: 1-866-220-0044, or 1-877-851-6437. These numbers connect to the Capitol switchboard; then you must ask for the legislator by name.

POSTAL MAIL TO CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON DC IS SLOW REACHING LEGISLATORS BECAUSE IT IS HELD UP FOR SECURITY CHECKS. IT IS BETTER TO SEND POSTAL MAIL TO THE OREGON OFFICES.

Senator Ron Wyden

202-224-5244; fax: 202-228-2717

Portland: 911 NE 11th Ave., Ste 630, Portland OR 97232; 503-326-7525; Fax: 503-326-7528.

Eugene: 405 E 8th Ave., Ste 2020, Eugene OR 97401; 541-431-0229. **La Grande:** SAC Annex, 105 Fir St, Ste 201, La Grande OR 97850; 541-962-7691. **Medford:** Federal Courthouse, 310 West 6th St., Rm 118, Medford OR 97501; 541-858-5122. **Bend:** Jamison Bldg., 131 NW Hawthorne Ave., Ste 107, Bend, OR 97701; 541-330-9142. **Salem:** 707 13th St, SE, Ste 285, Salem, OR 97301, 503-589-4555.

Senator Jeff Merkley

202-224-3753; Fax: 202-228-3997

Portland: 121 SW Salmon St., Ste 1400, Portland OR 97204; 503-326-3386; Fax: 503-326-2900. **Eugene:** 405 East 8th Ave., Ste 2010, Eugene OR 97401; 541-465-6750. **Medford:** 10 South Bartlett St., Ste 201, Medford OR 97501; 541-608-9102. **Salem:** 495 State St., Ste 330, Salem OR 97301; 503-362-8102. **Bend:** Jamieson Bldg, 131 NW Hawthorne Ave., Ste 208, Bend OR 97701; 541-318-1298. **Pendleton:** 310 SE Second St., Ste 105, Pendleton OR 97801; 541-278-1129.

OREGON'S REPRESENTATIVES

District 1 - **David Wu.** Phone: 202-225-0855 Fax: 202-225-9497

Rep. Wu's local Oregon office: 620 SW Main St., Suite 606, **Portland** OR 97205

Phone: 503-326-2901; Toll-free: 800-422-4003. Fax: 503-326-5066.

District 2 - **Greg Walden.** Phone: 202-225-6730 Fax: 202-225-5774

Oregon offices: **Medford:** 843 E. Main St., Ste.400, Medford OR 97504 Phone: 541-776-4646. Toll-free: 800-533-3303. Fax: 541-779-0204. **La Grande:** 1211 Washington Ave. La Grande OR 97850; 541-624-2400. Fax: 541-624-2402. **Bend:** 1051 NW Bond St., Ste 400, Bend OR 97701. 541-389-4408. Fax: 541-389-4452

District 3 - **Earl Blumenauer.** Phone: 202-225-4811 Fax: 202-225-8941

Oregon office: 729 NE Oregon St., Suite 115, **Portland** OR 97232. phone: 503-231-2300; Fax: 503-230-5413

District 4 - **Peter A. DeFazio** Phone: 202-225-6416 Fax: 202-225-0032

Oregon offices: **Eugene:** 405 East 8th Ave #2030, Eugene OR 97401; 541-465-6732. Toll-free: 1-800-944-9603. Fax: 541-465-6458. **Coos Bay:** 125 Central Ave., Suite 350, Coos Bay OR 97420; 541-269-2609. Fax: 541-269-5760. **Roseburg:** 612 SE Jackson St., Rm.9, Roseburg OR 97470; 541-440-3523. Fax: 541-440-3525.

District 5 - **Kurt Schrader,** Phone: 202-225-5711 Fax: 202-225-5699

Salem: 494 State St., Ste 210, Salem OR 97301; 503-588-9100; Fax: 503-588-5517. Toll-free phone: 1-877-301-Kurt (5878) **Oregon City:** 112 8th St., Oregon City OR 97045; 503-557-1324. Fax: 503-557-1981