

A Solution to Illegal Immigration

A Vision for Secure Borders, Economic Growth and Compassionate Habitation

This proposal is a solution for the multifaceted problem caused by the currently unsecured border. It does not advocate amnesty or the inhumane treatment of a neglected people -by their own government- who are simply searching for a better way of life in the blessed country in which we live. The proposal is a solution that looks at the short term goals, long term goals and some economic concerns. It answers the question about what to do with 20 million illegal immigrants as asked in the South Carolina debates on January 10, 2008 and now back in the light with the 2012 debates and the 2016 debates. To date, this was submitted to Representative Frank Wolf (VA) for review, who submitted this to the House Homeland Security Committee Chairman in July 2008.

Benefits of the proposed solution will provide the following outcomes:

- Secures the border and reduces the danger to border based law enforcement officers
- Stops the flow of illegal aliens from crossing the southern border from Mexico by securing the border with a physical barrier instead of a significant increase in costly manpower and technology
- Creates an enterprise zone for US companies to be able to compete in the global economy and slow the trade deficit with countries overseas
- Creates a 'staging' area where those who are awaiting legal entry into the country can live and work while providing a window of time that will allow for the processing of naturalization for legal citizenship or the reinvention of the legal immigration process
- Decreases US jail populations across the US and provide an alternative location to detain those that are not US citizens
- Allows for educating of immigrants to learn English, US law and history
- Creates a funding source to pay for the construction of the barriers, border security, habitant education and other public infrastructure
- Enables those who currently live on the border and own land to have the opportunity for significant financial gain
- Decreases the load on overburdened public systems such as schools, hospitals and other public services in the greater United States
- Allows for the protected housing of border patrol agents that are either patrolling or stationed on the border wall
- Creates a transport mechanism for liquids, utilities and communications between the Gulf Coast and the Pacific Coast
- Creates a fair way to handle those legally requesting immigration without sending those who already in the pending process to the back of the line as would be the case with blanket amnesty

The Solution Summary

The solution is to create a section of land on the border of the US and Mexico, on US soil. This region of land could be roughly 10-20 miles in depth, or whatever distance might be practical, and would extend the entire distance of the border. On the Northern border of this area, construction of a new wall would be constructed to secure the border, creating an area south of the wall, that would be used as a newly created enterprise zone. This region would then be used to allow those who are illegally in the country to voluntarily migrate to this region motivated by an enforcement deadline and opportunity. The region would then experience hyper growth generating new jobs for the construction of the securing wall, homes, businesses and other infrastructure while capturing tax revenue that is not currently being received. In this new region, government would govern industry in a hands-off fashion to allow US corporations to take advantage of a low cost work force preventing low paying jobs from going off shores to the Far East. The illegal immigrants would have the opportunity of temporarily living in this zone to be able to learn English, US law and history and if tested as competent in these areas and are clear of criminal acts, they could apply for US citizenship. It should be noted that this is sovereign US soil so the enforcement of US law could be applied keeping illegal activities and drug cartels from spreading to the area.

Specific Ideas on the Solution

The Wall

The wall would be constructed from stone and would be suggested to be about 30 feet tall and at least the width of two cars. At the base (a height below the top 10 feet), it should be constructed of solid rock or other solid material across the volume of the base of the wall such that it could easily absorb the impact of a speeding truck or other destructive force. The wall base should also be extended into the ground such that it would not be tunneled underneath. Sensors would be implanted on the southern facing wall and underneath to detect those trying to scale over or tunnel under it. In the portion of the wall above the base, a tunnel or pipeline pathway should be constructed for the transport of substances such as oil, water, or gas and conduit for electrical and communications utilities.

Desalination plants could be created on the Gulf Coast and the Pacific Coast to provide a water source to the region for sustaining life and farms. As part of the wall design, there should be station posts constructed every 38 miles that would provide Border Patrol agents with shelter and technical operations centers for longer term operations to be conducted and supported. This would allow for 50 border stations to be in operation, one for each state in the Union. The design should be standardized and it is suggested that one company be chosen from each state to manage the construction of each of the 50 sections of the wall. Additionally, solar panels could be incorporated to generate electricity in support of the Border Patrol stations and possibly generate electricity to the grid.

The Pathway to Citizenship

Like the vast majority of Americans, the origins of our ancestors are from some other country but never has it been a free ride. Most of us or our families have come here for opportunity and in receiving the opportunity have been instilled with a deep sense of gratitude for this country. This should be true of anyone entering the country. They should be able to be proud of the opportunity and their country; not try to hide in the shadows as person running from the law. I would suggest that one could earn their citizenship in two ways. The first being an honorable discharge from successful service in any one of the United States branches of military. Not only should the person who served be granted citizenship but also his or her immediate family. The second path would be meeting the current requirements for Naturalization, successfully completing the process for US citizenship and having no criminal record while living in enterprise zone.

Migration of the current illegal aliens

Based on reports, it is estimated that there are 20 million illegal aliens in the United States. It is impossible to detain and process all of these people, so it should be announced that there will be opportunity in this new zone and that the sooner you migrate to this new zone and register, the higher you will rank in line for the naturalization/citizenship process behind the current backlog of people already in the pending status. In addition to this motivation, a deadline should be set, for example of 1,2 or 5 years from the announcement date, that strict enforcement of the law will be invoked and all those found guilty of the law will be deported and will be disallowed any chance of US Citizenship. Coupled with enforcement of illegal inhabitants would be the strict enforcement of hiring practices for US companies that are currently hiring illegal workers.

Financial Considerations

If it is assumed that 80 percent of the illegal aliens can work, they make an average of \$25,000 per year and if taxed at a rate of 25%, this would generate tax revenue of 100 billion dollars. This money could be used to pay for the construction of the wall, purchase of land or lease right of way, expand the Border Patrol's capabilities, as well as fund infrastructure to create utilities, hospitals, educational facilities and detention centers. Obviously, if 20 million people leave the US for this territory there will be explosive growth in that area and businessmen and those who currently own property in the area will have a significant opportunity to capitalize on this growth. In addition, it would be suggested that the government incent US companies and manufacturers to utilize this new labor force and allow them to operate under fewer regulations or at least regulations particular to the enterprise zone. Taxes on goods and services created in this new zone will sustain the new zone so that it can become fiscally independent from taxpayers outside the zone and perhaps contribute to paying down the current deficit. It is important that some incentive is in place to have US companies bring labor and manufacturing jobs back to this zone as well as back to the greater United States.

It is clearly evident that many more details are not defined in this document however it is only intended to start discussion on a possible solution that would allow multiple interested parties to achieve a mutually benefitting outcome. I am certainly no expert but I do hope to spurn conversation on the topic of a winning, non-political, pro-American solution. If you care to contact me, please feel free to do so at chris@osomsolutions.com or 703.766.4555 x101.

Thank you, Chris Olexa