



consensus

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DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- At the beginning of the video, Dr. Krauthammer states, “Every sensible immigration policy has two objectives: (1) to regain control of our borders so that we decide who enters and (2) to find a humane way to deal with the 11 million illegal immigrants who now live among us.” What do you think makes immigration policy with these two objectives ‘sensible?’ What do you think Dr. Krauthammer means when referring to a ‘humane’ way of dealing with immigrants?
- Later, Dr. Krauthammer explains that, “A vast number of Americans who oppose legalization and fear new waves of immigration would change their minds if we could radically reduce new, i.e. future, illegal immigration.” Why do you think that many of these opponents would likely change their minds if future illegal immigration were to be significantly reduced? Can you think of any measures that the government could take in order to significantly reduce future immigration? Explain.
- Dr. Krauthammer goes on to share with us the first of his two-pronged solution: “First, build a barrier. Call it wall. Call it a fence. Call it a barrier. Make it a combination of all. Add cameras and sensors. Add drones. Beef up patrols. All that matters is that we control the border.” Why do you think that many people get so hung up on what the actual barrier is and what it is called? Do you agree with Dr. Krauthammer that the specifics and semantics of the actual barrier are not nearly as important as the function of the barrier- i.e. the outcome of it... actual control of the border? Why or why not?
- Dr. Krauthammer defends his position by stating, “When you build a wall to keep people in, that’s a prison. When you build a wall to keep people out, that’s an expression of sovereignty.” What do you think Dr. Krauthammer means by ‘an expression of sovereignty?’ Why is sovereignty so important for a nation?
- Towards the end of the video, Dr. Krauthammer points out that, “The American people are legitimately angry at the price American society has paid due to illegal immigration.” What price do you think American society has paid due to illegal immigration? Explain. Do you think that the anger Americans feel towards illegal immigration and its consequences is indeed legitimate? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: E-Verify

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “5 Things You Should Know About E-Verify,” then answer the questions that follow.

- What is E-Verify? What is the purpose of E-Verify? When is E-Verify supposed to be used? What does Senator Rubio state the conditions are for the path to citizenship in the bill that the Senate was proposing at the time? What did Senator Cornyn propose in his RESULTS Act?
- Do you think that E-Verify should be mandatory? Why or why not? Do you think that E-Verify, or some similar system, is essential for border control? Explain. In what ways do you think that E-Verify helps people who are legally eligible to work in the U.S.?
- What parts of this article, if any, support Dr. Krauthammer’s points in the video? Explain. What would you propose as a solution to the problem of illegal immigration?



QUIZ

BUILD THE WALL

1. Which of the following steps should be taken to tackle the illegal immigration problem?
 - a. Track visas.
 - b. Use E-verify for employment.
 - c. Build a barrier.
 - d. All of the above.

2. What did the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration reform turn out to be?
 - a. A sting operation.
 - b. A ploy to gain the black vote.
 - c. The largest legalization program in American history.
 - d. Quite successful in drastically reducing illegal immigration.

3. The triple fence outside San Diego led to a _____ reduction in infiltration.
 - a. 2 percent
 - b. 30 percent
 - c. 60 percent
 - d. 90 percent

4. For both practical and moral reasons, America will, and should, expel 11 million people.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. 40% of illegal immigrants are _____.
 - a. violent criminals
 - b. visa overstays
 - c. on welfare
 - d. planning on returning to their home country



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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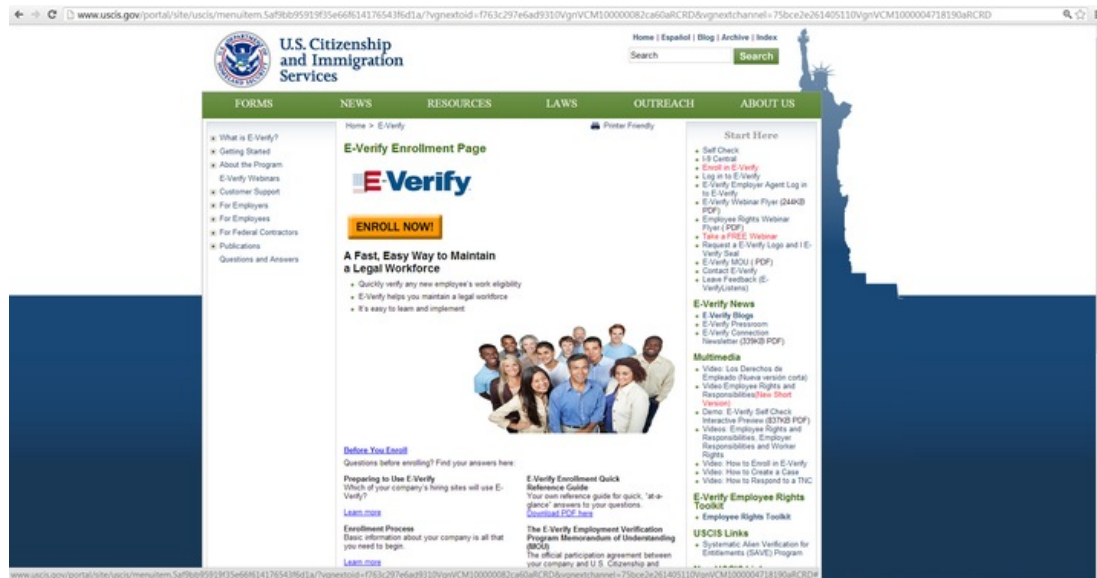
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<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/5-things-you-should-know-about-e-verify/>

5 Things You Should Know About E-Verify

BY Meena Ganesan June 17, 2013 at 6:22 PM EDT



Functioning as a pilot program up until now, the federal database program E-Verify is set for some changes under a sweeping Senate immigration bill.

E-Verify — an electronic program run by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security contrived to help businesses filter out undocumented immigrants from their pool of new hires — has garnered renewed attention in recent weeks as the Senate debates a comprehensive immigration reform bill.

E-Verify

(noun)

1. An Internet-based system that compares information from an employee's Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, to data from U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration records to confirm employment eligibility. (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services)

The program started in 1996 with the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act. Employers can submit information from a potential employee's Employment Eligibility Verification Form, or I-9, through this multi-step process online, and the Social Security Administration and the USCIS will match it to government records and decipher whether the employee can work legally in the U.S.

On Tuesday's NewsHour, we'll talk to Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, and Christopher Calabrese, legislative counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, for two points of view on the federal database's potential future under new legislation.

Under Current Law, the Program Is Voluntary in Most States

"E-Verify today is largely a volunteer system where employers can check the employment status of workers after they have hired them as part of the I-9 process," Calabrese told the NewsHour. "It's mandatory for federal contractors and in some states, and it's also mandatory for most government workers."

The program, while still voluntary, receives typically high marks for its usability, according to Calabrese, but its error rate is difficult to discern. The program, he said, currently skews to larger employers who can handle the processes with a how-to-manual spanning 80-pages.

Krikorian, a critic of the bill's architecture, told the NewsHour:

The point of E-Verify is to enable legitimate employers to know whether their employees are liars or not. Without it, if you give an employer an ID with a picture of Mickey Mouse and any combination of numbers in a 9-digit number, you can probably get hired .. In concept, electronic employment verification is one of the most important goals of immigration control. You can't have immigration control in a modern society without it.

The USCS website notes that "U.S. law requires companies to employ only individuals who may legally work in the United States — either U.S. citizens, or foreign citizens who have the necessary authorization," and that diverse strength on the economy "also attracts unauthorized employment."

The program as it stands now looks like this — with both a step-by-step process on how an employer and employee completes an I-9 form, as well as a self-check process where individuals can check their authorization status themselves:

Under the Senate Bill, Many Expect Mandatory Electronic Employment Verification

As part of the I-9 process, Calabrese laid out this potential process that would be mandatory for all employers within five years of passage:

- You would start a new job.
- You would present your documents.
- Someone in the HR department would have to be trained in how to use the system.
- E-Verify would verify your work eligibility from those documents.
- If your photo was in the system, via a passport, perhaps, that would come up.
- If the system authorized you, it'd be, 'Congratulations and you're on your way.'

- Other times, if the system says you're not authorized, either because you're not supposed to be or because of an error in the system, you'd have eight days to contest that determination and you might have various procedural hurdles available, like appealing to judges.

The process, according to Calabrese, is not supposed to be a pre-screening system for potential hires. In fact, he said, if employers follow the procedural rules, "You're not supposed to do E-Verify until after you've hired someone."

In an interview with The Washington Examiner, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., a member of the bipartisan group that drafted the legislation, reiterated a position he flagged on a Sunday show — that strengthening the border security provisions of the bill was key.

[The Democrats] don't want anything to make the path to citizenship uncertain. But it already is conditioned. The path to citizenship in this bill — the path to that green card — it's already conditioned on the full implementation of E-Verify. It's already conditioned on the full implementation of the entry-exit tracking system. And, the last thing is, it's got to be fully conditioned on the completion of the specific border plan that we detail.

Add 'Biometrics' to Your Vocabulary

A flashpoint in the current Senate bill, biometrics is a branch of biology in which human characteristics are translated into statistical data.

"It can include pictures, fingerprints, iris scans and even elements like how an individual walks," according to Calabrese.

Last week, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, proposed an amendment he calls the RESULTS Act: "Requiring Enforcement, Security and Safety, & Upgrading Legitimate Trade and Travel Simultaneously." The provision stipulates a number of proposals. Among them is a fully operational E-Verify system and a biometric exit system in which U.S. Customs and Border Protection would track immigrants leaving the U.S. at all U.S. international airports and seaports.

In addition to an exit system, the Senate bill, Calabrese said, "encourages every state to provide a driver's license photo to a Department of Homeland Security."

And although Cornyn's amendment would require biometric data, Krikorian said the bill, amended by the Senate in late May to include a fingerprinting system, "would only require a biographic exit to prove that it was you."

Bipartisanship Aside, the Program Has Critics

For those Americans who are authorized to work in the U.S., critics say the impending legislation could lead to substantial headaches from unintended consequences. A USCIS study of the program, using 2009 data, found that 0.3 percent of applicants received tentative nonconfirmations (TNC) that were erroneous but ultimately corrected.