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August 7, 2007

Re: Connecticut Immigration and Enforcement Act (CT-ICE Act)

Dear Governor Rell and State Legislators:

The State of Connecticut can no longer regard illegal immigration as a “federal problem.” Illegal immigration impacts the lives of every citizen in the state. Just as the State has laws that reinforce federal laws in other areas, such as drug use, the State should also have laws pertaining to immigration. CTCIC recommends the following:

Connecticut Immigration Control and Enforcement Act (CT-ICE Act)

- (1) The State shall train every state police office under ICE 287(g) program that provides training and authorization for local law enforcement personnel to serve as force multipliers for ICE. The State shall provide funding for any city or town wishing to train its officers under this program.
- (2) Employing or harboring an illegal alien shall be a felony in the State of Connecticut.
- (3) Employers shall verify the immigration status of every employee by a CT State approved system or any equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or any other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of newly hired employees, pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. The towns and cities of the state may enforce such verification.
- (4) Inducing any illegal alien to enter, reside or work in the United States—ID Cards for illegal aliens and creation of pick-up zones for illegal workers will be deemed such an inducement—shall be a felony in the State of Connecticut.
- (5) Restricting police officers from inquiring as to the immigration status of any person or restricting the communication of that status to federal immigration officials shall be a felony in the State of Connecticut.
- (6) The police shall hold any illegal alien arrested for felonies without bail, until deportation. The State of Connecticut shall reimburse local officials for the incarceration of illegal aliens.
- (7) CT State officials shall hold every illegal alien released from prison until the illegal alien is deported.

Illegal aliens made a deliberate economic decision to come into the United States because our elected officials have not protected our borders or enforced our immigration laws. When our laws are enforced and employment disappears, illegal aliens will make a sensible decision and return to their home countries.

Recently, Republicans voted unanimously against in-state tuition for illegal aliens. Three Democrats in the Senate and twenty-four in the House joined with them. Therefore, we hope enforcement legislation can be enacted with bi-partisan co-operation for the benefit of all citizens of the State of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Streitz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Streitz
Co-director
CT Citizens for Immigration Control