

3/7/2008 - Congressman Sires Calls The Senate Immigration Bills Inadequate And Unacceptable

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For Immediate Release

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(Washington, D.C.) - Today, Congressman Albio Sires announced his opposition to the large package of anti-immigration legislation introduced yesterday by a group of Republican Senators. There are fourteen bills in total, which focus on enforcement-only initiatives.

"This action by the Senate is inadequate and unacceptable in its attempts to deal with the complicated immigration situation," said Congressman Sires. "While it is obvious that the current immigration system in the United States is broken and in need of reform, comprehensive immigration reform is essential to addressing the numerous problems facing our country, including requiring that those who are not here legally become legal," added Sires.

Congressman Sires continues to stand behind comprehensive immigration reform and will work with his colleagues in Congress to achieve the necessary reform. "With an estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants, any immigration reform package must include a process that offers hard working, law abiding immigrants a path to become legal. Focusing solely on enforcement-only policies does not address the problems at hand. We must protect our borders, increase worker verification programs and enforce strict penalties to employers who knowingly violate the law; but we must also ensure that families remain together and that our economy has the stable and secure workforce it needs." stated Congressman Sires.

The Senate could begin consideration of any of these various bills as early as next week. Congressman Sires strongly opposes the legislation and urges his colleagues to do the same.

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