

# Rally for The New American Family & Immigration Reform

Brought to you by the Dallas Mega March Coalition 2007

For more information please call (214) 941-8300  
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## Myths & Facts about Immigrants in America

**Immigrants don't pay taxes.** All immigrants pay taxes, whether income, property, sales, or other. As far as income tax payments go, sources vary, but a range of studies find that immigrants pay between \$90 and \$140 billion a year in federal, state, and local taxes. Even undocumented immigrants pay income taxes, as evidenced by the Social Security Administration's suspense file (taxes that cannot be matched to workers' names and social security numbers), which grew \$20 billion between 1990 and 1998. *Source: National Academy of Sciences, Cato Institute, Urban Institute, Social Security Administration*

**Immigrants come here to take welfare.** Immigrants come to work and reunite with family members. Immigrant labor force participation is consistently higher than native-born, and immigrant workers make up a larger share of the U.S. labor force (12.4%) than they do the U.S. population (11.5%). Moreover, the ratio between immigrant use of public benefits and the amount of taxes they pay is consistently favorable to the U.S., unless the "study" was undertaken by an anti-immigrant group. In one estimate, immigrants earn about \$240 billion a year, pay about \$90 billion a year in taxes, and use about \$5 billion in public benefits. *Source: American Immigration Lawyers Association, Urban Institute*

**Immigrants take jobs and opportunity away from Americans.** The largest wave of immigration to the U.S. since the early 1900s coincided with our lowest national unemployment rate and fastest economic growth. Immigrant entrepreneurs create jobs for U.S. and foreign workers. While there has been no comprehensive study done of immigrant-owned businesses, we have countless examples: in Silicon Valley, companies begun by Chinese and Indian immigrants generated more than \$19.5 billion in sales and nearly 73,000 jobs in 2000. *Source: Brookings Institution*

**Immigrants are a drain on the U.S. economy.** During the 1990s, half of all new workers were foreign-born, filling gaps left by native-born workers in both the high- and low-skill ends of the spectrum. Immigrants fill jobs in key sectors, start their own businesses, and contribute to the economy. The net benefit of immigration to the U.S. is nearly \$10 billion annually. As Alan Greenspan pointed out, 70% of immigrants arrive in prime working age. That means we haven't spent a penny on their education, yet they're transplanted into our workforce and will contribute \$500 billion toward social security over the next 20 years. *Source: National Academy of Sciences, Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University, Federal Reserve*

**Immigrants don't want to learn English or become Americans.** Within ten years of arrival, more than 75% of immigrants speak English well; moreover, demand for English classes at the adult level far exceeds supply. Greater than 33% of immigrants are naturalized citizens; given increased immigration in the 1990s, this figure will rise as more legal permanent residents become eligible for naturalization. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services)*

**The war on terrorism can be won through immigration restrictions.** No security expert since September 11th, 2001, has said that restrictive immigration measures would have prevented the terrorist attacks; instead, they key is good use of good intelligence. Most of the 9/11 hijackers were here on legal visas. Since 9/11, the myriad of measures targeting immigrants in the name of national security have netted no terrorism prosecutions. *Source: Newspaper articles, various security experts and think tanks*

## Call your senator and congress member: "I support comprehensive immigration reform!"

Speaker Nancy Pelosi  
US Senator, FL Mel Martinez  
US Senator John Cornyn  
US Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
US Representative Sam Johnson (District 3)  
US Representative Jeb Hensarling (District 5)  
US Representative Joe Barton (District 6)  
US Representative Kenny Marchant (District 24)  
US Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (District 30)  
US Representative Pete Sessions (District 32)

Phone 202.225.4965  
Phone 202.224.3041  
Phone 972.239.1310 Fax 972.239.2110  
Phone 214.361.3500 Fax 214.361.3502  
Phone 972.470.0892 Fax 972.470.9937  
Phone 214.349.9996 Fax 214.349.0738  
Phone 817.543.1000 Fax 817.548.7029  
Phone 972.556.0162 Fax 972.409.9704  
Phone 214.922.8885 Fax 214.922.7028  
Phone 972.392.0505 Fax 972.392.0615

## Why are we rallying?

At the heart of our efforts is the common goal of using our Constitutional rights of assembly, petitioning our government, and expression to cause Congress to enact comprehensive federal immigration reform. Comprehensive reform means not breaking families apart, not jailing children, creating a true and efficient path to citizenship for law-abiding immigrants, and supporting legislation that continues to protect both the human and civil rights of all peoples; despite their immigration status. This coalition effort is the continuation of momentum of the Mega-Marcha of Dallas, Texas, that took place on April and May of 2006, in response to HR 4437 and other anti-immigrant Congressional legislation.

## Become a citizen!

According to the Department of Homeland Security, in 2004 there were approximately 8 million legal residents that could apply for citizenship. To apply for citizenship, a legal resident has to pay \$400 for a test which focuses on civics and English proficiency.

## Hispanics need to vote.

In March 2006, the Census Bureau released its report on voting participation in the last presidential election, "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2004." The report showed that of the more than 27 million Hispanics in the U.S. only 16 million are U.S. citizens. Of those 16 million, only 9.3 million are registered to vote. In 2004, only 7 million Hispanics voted. Compared to other communities, the percentage of Hispanics voting was low: 67 percent of Whites eligible to vote cast a ballot in 2004, along with 60 percent of Blacks followed by 47 percent of Hispanics.

## Immigrants are patriotic!

On Nov. 28, the Dallas Morning News reported that 69,300 foreign-born men and women are currently serving in the U.S. armed forces (around five percent of active-duty military). Of those 69,300 service members, around 43 percent -- or 29,800, are not U.S. citizens. Sadly, 100 of these immigrants have died in Afghanistan and Iraq.

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