



THE IFIRE INFORMER

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Indiana Federation for Immigration
Reform and Enforcement

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This month began with the Stop the Invasion National Day of Protest organized by Paul Streitz of [CTCIC](#). Over 40 organizations participated on January 7th. IFIRE went to the protest organized by Rick Biesada of the [Chicago Minutemen](#). It was held at a Home Depot in Cicero, IL. Our protest was scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. but the counter-protest started at 6:30 am. It was still dark when we arrived to find a heavy police presence and maybe 100 illegal immigration supporters standing around a Spanish radio station truck. Ironically, the name of the station was "La Ley" which means "the Law" in Spanish. Painted on their trailer were the words "La Estacion de la Raza," meaning: The Station of the Race. Two stalwart Minutemen, [Brian and Michelle Jacobsen](#), were already picketing when we arrived. By the end of the protest, some 40 people had come to support us. The Cicero P.D. was fantastic! They kept the 2 sides separated by a large distance. We were allowed to mingle as long as we were peaceful. At one point, a very angry-looking man from the opposition charged towards screaming and holding a sign reading, "Yankee go home!" The police stopped him and sent him back. Open borders supporters yelled "Racist go home!" to us and told us to go back to Europe. We had at least two immigrants, now

naturalized citizens, protesting with us. Because the police kept us so far away, we were unable to pass out flyers to the illegals or to the contractors who hire them. We got the occasional one-finger salute. One “gentleman” even took both hands off the steering wheel in order to salute us with both hands! That made me laugh! We were heartened to see that many Hispanic-looking people supported us this time. The link to Oscar Avila’s coverage of our protest has expired. He ended his article by saying that a contractor drove up to the illegals at the protest and asked if anyone knew how to paint and 3 workers swarmed his vehicle. Now you’ll understand the opening paragraph of [Rick Biesada's comments on Federal Observer](#). More stories are available at [CTCIC](#) including the [FreedomFolks](#)’ coverage. For the Cause also carried a story about this by [Dave Tatosian](#).

We held our 6th protest of Bank Calumet at the Munster branch on January 21st. Prior to our protest, Greg Serbon of IFIRE, received confirmation from another locally-owned bank that they have been getting a lot of new customers who have left Bank Calumet due to their policy of writing home loans for illegals. Bank Calumet is in the process of being sold. Some bankers tell us that the new owner would like to get into writing loans for illegals. The new owner has no policy against these loans, so our protests continue. Some new people came out and helped us protest this time (Karen, John, Paul, Dave and Jim) and we passed out about 50 flyers telling people how the bank is breaking the law. One man had gotten a flyer from us previously. He went in to the bank to close his account while we were protesting outside. Several Americans told us they were pretty upset that illegal aliens can get loans but they cannot. When the bank runs a credit check on an American, they know for a fact who they are dealing with and have a credit history a mile long. With illegals, the bank knows right off the bat that they’re lawbreakers. The bank doesn’t know whether the illegal has used his true identity and they normally have a very short credit record. Is that discriminatory? It had been over a month since our last protest. Judging by the enthusiastic honks and waves, I felt like people were very happy to see us back. It was neat to see couples drive by. The wife would have a slight frown on her forehead as she read our signs aloud. Then, her face would break into a smile and she would wave as her husband honked his horn. Not everyone was happy to see us. A really old green Chevy, held together with string, cruised by very slowly while one guy held a sign out the window saying, “I’m an illegal alien...F*** you!” And to think that our state legislature wants to grant driver’s certificates to these people!

On the state level, there have been half a dozen pieces of legislation pertaining to immigration. IFIRE testified on two of the most important ones, HB1310 to give driver’s certificates to illegals and HB 1383 to keep illegals from receiving public benefits. We had to get up at 3 a.m. in order to make the drive to Indianapolis by 8:30 a.m., due to the distance and a time zone change.

Each seat in the House Chambers had a set of small flags on the desk. One was the American flag and the other was the Indiana state flag except for the desk where I sat. I noticed that one of the flags on my desk was yellow. When I took a closer look, I saw that it was the Gadsden Flag bearing a picture of a coiled rattlesnake and the words, “Don’t tread on me!”

The bills had to be voted out of committee that day and time was extremely limited. The sponsors of the bills spoke first, followed by questions from committee members, then testimony, then the committee members voted. There are two states that issue driver’s certificates, TN and UT. Rep. Murphy’s bill 1310 was patterned after Tennessee’s law. [Rep. Aguilera’s bill 1357 was closer to Utah’s law.] He said that immigrants of all nationalities must be able to drive because work is not centralized. It isn’t safe to have them driving without being licensed and

insured. He told the story of stopping to translate for a Spanish-speaking woman who had been in a traffic accident. She had no driver's license or insurance but she did hold a valid title and registration for her vehicle. [In Indiana, you're supposed to have a driver's license before you drive and you're required to show proof of insurance before registering your vehicle for plates.] He said our economy would collapse without immigrants and that his bill did not promote illegal immigration. Current rules require a SSN in order to get a DL but "undocumented immigrants" cannot get one. Therefore, he suggested the BMV might accept the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) as a substitute. He said the ITIN means immigrants are paying taxes. His bill would also require law enforcement to report the driver certificate holder to ICE if they were arrested for a traffic offense. Following his statement, other representatives had questions.

There was little time left for testimony but the star witness on behalf of this bill was Sergio Aguilera, Consul of the Mexican Consulate in Indianapolis. He testified that the bill was reasonable, that it dealt with the "reality" that immigrants are here and it offered a solution. He said they come to work, they pay taxes and social security so they should be allowed to drive. Due to a lack of time, most of the other supporters could only give their names, who they represented and a brief comment about why the bill should pass. Numerous representatives of the Catholic, Jewish and Lutheran faiths testified as did the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Service Employees International Union, the owner of a Spanish newspaper, a representative of the Insurance Institute of Indiana, Central Indiana Jobs with Justice, a Spanish-speaking man spoke through an interpreter plus Indiana state employees who work for the public schools and social services agencies all favored the bill. There wasn't enough time left for me to read my prepared statement. I was able to make the points that illegal immigration adds to corruption in our state. That the best way to know who people really are is to identify them before they leave their home country. It's next to impossible to accurately identify them after they arrive here. The Matricula Consular is worthless for ID according to the FBI. It's used almost exclusively by illegal aliens who often have multiple cards in different names. A common situation is to use one card for work and others in case of arrest. Cards easy to get for a small fee, in fact, I know Americans of European descent who have the cards. I told them that simply having an ITIN does not mean that the holder has paid taxes. According to the IRS website, over 7 million ITINs had been issued and a fourth of them were never used on a tax return. I told them that third parties can register someone for an ITIN without any proof of identity being required. When the IRS realized that people were misusing the number, they wrote to all 50 state BMVs and Governors to warn them that ITINs are not to be used as proof of identity. I told them they didn't have to take my word for it. I had documentation there to prove everything I said. I testified that we would not be safer because illegals won't get insurance because it will be too expensive. I called a high-risk insurer and was told illegals with no tickets or accidents and no credit history would pay as much as \$1,500 for 6 months of state minimum liability coverage. This would not be sufficient to cover a serious accident and citizen's own underinsured motorist coverage would still end up paying the tab. Rep. Charlie Brown wanted me to know that this bill does not include a requirement to get insurance. I told him that I simply brought it up because both Rep. Murphy and Aguilera had said the illegals would get insurance and we would be safer. Greg Serbon hardly had any time so he made the point that these people are here illegally and should not receive licenses as a reward. Privately, Greg wondered why we didn't dispense with the driver's certificates all together and just report the illegals to the authorities for deportation, as this bill would require! The subsequent vote was tied at 6 to 6, which meant that the bill did not pass out of committee and is dead.

Next, Rep. Turner presented his bill to prevent illegals from accessing public services. Due to court the Supreme Court decision, Plyler vs. Doe, he withdrew the portion of the bill that would have had schools check immigration status. He also pointed out that Federal law required that emergency treatment be provided to illegals and said his bill would not change that. His bill would deal with the follow up or routine, non-emergency medical care only. I didn't hear all of Rep. Turner's statement because the Mexican Consul, Sergio Aguilera, stopped to tell me personally that I was wrong about the Matricula card.

Those opposed to this bill were allowed to speak first beginning with Rep. Aguilera. He said he believed the bill was “mean-spirited” and “directed against the Hispanic community.” He felt that the bill should fine employers who hire illegals. Testimony time for the opposition was up so most of the same people lined up again to state their names and a brief comment. The woman representing the Jewish faith read a Scripture about helping the stranger. A pediatrician felt it would make her violate the Hippocratic Oath. A Catholic priest said he felt the bill was directed at children. In the most inflammatory statement of the day, he said the bill was nothing but a “state-sponsored child abuse bill.” [Hmm. From reading the newspapers, one would think that Catholic priests have difficulty recognizing child abuse even when it is literally right under their noses.]

Finally, Tish Cooper spoke on behalf of IFIRE. She opened by commenting on an Indy Univision article which had referred to this bill as “anti-immigrant” and “racist.” She said that race had nothing to do with a person’s choice to break into our country uninvited, that this was about the law. She drew a distinction between legal immigrants and illegal ones. She said that it was a reality that criminals like shoplifters were among us and always would be. Does that mean we should pass laws that would make it easier for them to pursue their illegal activity? She pointed out that illegals only benefit a small segment of our society like certain politicians and greedy employers who want low-wage workers. Then she said that illegal alien households pay an average of \$4,200 per year in federal taxes, but they use \$7,000 in taxpayer-funded services. She told the representatives that their constituents are tired of paying several hundred million dollars every year to support illegals. She said the constituents should be the legislators’ concern, no one else. Her time was up. A retired judge then spoke against the bill implying that certain religious faiths opposed this bill because their primary concern was filling their own pews. Rep. Charlie Brown felt this was a racist comment and the judge was cut short. Kristen Lundhart supported this bill on behalf of Phyllis Schlafly’s Eagle Forum. Eric Miller, a recent gubernatorial candidate, representing Advance America, spoke in favor. It was decided that the bill would be amended to address some of the concerns raised by legislators and would include penalties for businesses that hire illegals. The bill passed out of committee by a vote of 7 to 3. To support this bill, call your state representative at 1-800-382-9842 (Democrat); 1-800-382-9841 (Republican) and 1-800-382-9467 for your state senators.

All 3 of us had prepared written statements with documents to back up what we said. They were handed out to the legislators, the Indianapolis Star, Univision and interested parties. The scene in the hallway after the testimony was sizzling. A woman wearing a state ID badge from FSSA (Family Social Services Agency) by the name of Chavez literally got in Tish’s face and challenged her testimony. She was very aggressive and looked like she might hit Tish. Finally, one of the woman’s friends literally dragged her away. The judge tried to talk to Rep. Brown about why his comment upset him so. Rep. Brown told the judge to get out of his face. The judge reminded him that he worked for him. Rep. Brown said, “Oh, no I don’t!” and walked away. In the midst of all these verbal altercations, a microphone was suddenly thrust in my face and a bright camera light went on. It was most unpleasant. I said that only people who are here legally should be allowed to drive and that allowing illegals to drive and receive public benefits would only encourage more illegals to come here. They asked about medical treatment for children. I said that they were entitled to emergency medical treatment by federal law and that children born in the US to illegals were entitled to certain benefits as citizens, however, I oppose birthright citizenship. We then visited with some of our representatives and left packets of information for them to review. We encouraged them to call on IFIRE to help them on future immigration matters.

We are proud to announce the opening of a new IFIRE Chapter in Indianapolis. The leaders are **Tish Cooper** and **Teresa Keefer**. Both of these women are very talented, knowledgeable and fired up. Their first event will be a protest in Indianapolis. Stay tuned for details which will be announced very soon. If you live near Indy and subscribe to our newsletter, don’t be surprised if they get in touch with you. They can’t do this alone and are very busy women so I hope you will all welcome them and offer them your assistance and come out for the protest.

Finally, the biggest national news is that Rep. Sensenbrenner's tough immigration enforcement bill (H. R. 4437) was passed by the House. It has gone to the Senate where they are expected to attach guest worker/amnesty language in committee. This has always been part of a plan to sucker punch the American public. The Sensenbrenner bill was supposed to make us think they were finally listening to us. While we're focusing on the enforcement bill, the senators are planning to hammer us by increasing immigration with a guest worker provision. Your job is to let them know in no uncertain terms that you absolutely will not tolerate a guest worker program. We need true enforcement and a moratorium on immigration. If guest worker passes, you will never get enforcement no matter how many laws they pass. We already have good immigration laws but they are worthless because they are not enforced. The Senate could hear this issue in March. Your job is to call, write, fax, show up at townhall meetings and make sure they know where you stand. The toll free number for the Capitol Hill Switchboard is 1-888-355-3588 and just ask for any Senator or Representative.

Midwest stories—

Indy Star coverage of HB 1383 and 1310

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060125/NEWS02/601250427>

TN-Driver's certificate problems

<http://www.thedailytimes.com/sited/story/html/228885>

Speaking English in Ft. Wayne

<http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/newssentinel/news/local/13431132.htm>

Immigrant numbers up in Indiana-2004

http://72.14.203.104/search?q=cache:6DUNOj_Bh7wJ:www.iyi.org/pdf/immigration_winter04_alert.pdf+indiana+immigrant+population&hl=en

Chicago-illegal carjacker runs over elderly woman

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/nearwest/chi-0601100252jan10,1,1316432.story?coll=chi-newslocalnearwest-hed>

Open borders activists storm WI State Senator's home

<http://www.journaltimes.com/nucleus/index.php?itemid=3232>

Minuteman protest in Waukegan

<http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/top/w30minutemn.htm>

National Stories—

NY won't receive full reimbursement for treating illegals

http://wcbstv.com/topstories/local_story_021120703.html

Colorado legislation to keep track of illegals in public schools

http://www.9news.com/acm_news.aspx?OSGNAME=KUSA&IKOBJECTID=bbe04d59-0abe-421a-01d6-6b1164dfe3e2&TEMPLATEID=0c76dce6-ac1f-02d8-0047-c589c01ca7bf

Mexico promises to block border wall

<http://www.breitbart.com/news/2005/12/20/D8EK9N0G6.html>

Catholic bishops above the law?

<http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/viewArticle.asp?articleID=5152>

Mexico scraps plan for new migrant map

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/americas/01/26/border.maps.ap/>

Smuggling tunnel found at Mexican Border

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/11060688/>

911 for Mexicans

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/01/27/BAG8AGTRP31.DTL>

Fire Dreier-interviews of Americans displaced by illegal workers

<http://unitedstates.fm/video/Fire%20DreierJan07.wmv>

Blacks vs. Latinos at work

http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB113806810629254273-6jLw0jpN3nww01Qaf2ojhmFVx80_20070123.html

No such thing as a temporary worker

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/1212/p09s02-coop.html>

VDARE-Mexico demanding open borders

http://www.vdare.com/collins/060113_mexico.htm

Who is Jack Kemp? By Evelyn Miller

<http://www.americanpatrol.com/IDIOTS/KEMP-JACK/KempSkunkEvMiller051226.html>

Gang plans border attack

http://www.dailybulletin.com/news/ci_3448828

Letters to the Editor—

By Tish Cooper

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060129/OPINION01/601290378/1031>

By Marcel Didier

<http://www.suntimes.com/output/letters/cst-edt-vox25a.html>

By Helen Glass

http://nwitimes.com/articles/2006/01/15/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/760077ac9c28edb8862570f5000be7e6.txt

By Freida Andersen

http://nwitimes.com/articles/2006/01/15/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/0d2bdb64e82445c1862570f5000be73c.txt

