

House Joint Memorial 21

Sponsored by Representatives ROBLAN, RILEY, GALIZIO, C EDWARDS; Representatives BARKER, CLEM, COWAN, D EDWARDS, KOMP

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to secure borders of United States of America and institute comprehensive immigration reform.

JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress as-
3 sembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in leg-
5 islative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas the United States of America was founded by immigrants who traveled from around the
7 world to seek a better life; and

8 Whereas modernizing our antiquated and dysfunctional immigration system will uphold our na-
9 tion's basic values of fairness, equal opportunity and respect for the law; and

10 Whereas our current immigration system fails to provide the clear and fair paths to legal resi-
11 dency or citizenship that would benefit the growth of our nation while also securing our nation's
12 borders; and

13 Whereas the current, ineffective immigration system contributes to labor abuses, deaths on the
14 border and vigilante violence and is in dire need of reform to meet the challenges of the 21st cen-
15 tury; and

16 Whereas illegal immigration grew 23 percent over the past four years, and this increase came
17 despite the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and increased funding for border con-
18 trol; and

19 Whereas undocumented immigrants in the United States now total 12 million and account for
20 one in every five workers including one-quarter of agricultural workers; and

21 Whereas the federal government's unwillingness to stem the tide of illegal immigration has
22 created billions of dollars in costs to state and local governments; and

23 Whereas if the federal government continues to abdicate its responsibility to develop a com-
24 prehensive immigration policy, it should reimburse the states for costs associated with these fail-
25 ures, otherwise, the federal government is forcing states to pay for the federal government's failures;
26 now, therefore,

27 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

28 (1) We, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, on behalf of the citizens of Oregon, respectfully
29 urge the Congress of the United States to secure our nation's borders and to address comprehensive
30 immigration reform in order to provide states with an adequate workforce, address the escalating
31 costs to states of illegal immigration and help states recoup moneys already spent on such escalating

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 costs.

2 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker and the
3 Clerk of the House of Representatives, and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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