

Legislative UPDATE

From State Senator Joe Scarnati

SUMMER 2007



Scarnati to Illegal Aliens – NO MORE BENEFITS

Dear Friend:

Many states are enacting tougher immigration laws, and it's time for Pennsylvania to follow suit and stop providing government benefits and services to the growing number of illegal aliens entering our country. Pennsylvania residents should not be asked to sacrifice their hard-earned dollars to support those who have entered this country illegally.

That's why I recently introduced legislation in the Senate that would prohibit illegal aliens who are living in Pennsylvania from receiving public benefits, including Medicaid, welfare and in-state college tuition and face tighter scrutiny when applying for services. It is estimated that our state is home to roughly 150,000 illegal aliens.

Under current federal law illegal aliens are prohibited from receiving federal, state or local public benefits with exception of emergency medical care, necessary immunizations and disaster relief. However, Pennsylvania law is simply too lenient in enforcing those provisions.

My bill would require anyone requesting public benefits in the Commonwealth to provide identification proving they are legal residents. Additionally, they would be required to sign an affidavit stating they are a U.S. citizen or an alien lawfully present in the United States.

America is a country with people of many diverse backgrounds, but we cannot ensure public safety and remain an economic competitor if we do not secure our borders. If illegal immigrants can obtain benefits, they will be more likely to come to Pennsylvania. Instead, aliens who are living outside the law should be forced to return to their home and go through the legal immigration process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Scarnati".

Senator Joe Scarnati



on...
'at (the) mercy
American ● adj.
United States.
native...

