On Immigration

Detailed Plan On Immigration

By Devon

This plan is heavily based on the immigration reform policy described in Jeb Bush and Clint Bolick's book 'Immigration Wars: Forging An American Solution".

Version 1.2

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Problem Statement

Immigrants have built and powered America's economic engine since the founding of our nation. Starting in the 1970's there was a shift in America's immigration policy from work-based immigration to family-based immigration. This shift to family-based immigration has resulted in the following problems.

1. More immigrants arrive in America on family-based visas rather than work-based visas. Family-based immigrants are less likely to have employable skills. Consequently, family-based immigrants place a greater strain on our social welfare system and social healthcare system.
2. Because our immigration system issues more family-based immigrant visas than work-based immigrant visas, America is less likely to attract workers and investors who help to build our economy.
3. Immigration quotas do not automatically increase when demand for labor exceeds supply of labor. Consequently, our immigration policy is not designed to meet our labor and innovation demands by attracting the skilled immigrants who help to build our economy.

Proposed Solution

America's immigration policy must be reformed in order to attract workers, business leaders, scientists, engineers and investors who help to build our economic future. As demand for labor increases in America, our immigration system must meet demand by automatically increasing work-based immigration quotas. In addition, America must provide a clear path to citizenship that ensures that immigrants understand America's social culture, business culture, and values.

Action Items

1. Increase immigration quota for highly skilled workers and their immediate families
2. Implement annually renewable guest worker visa program for less skilled workers. Renewal is conditional on employment. Guest workers should be allowed to immigrate with their immediate families.
3. Implement a demand-based quota system
4. Lower family-based immigration visa issuance
5. Provide a clear path to citizenship by implementing a 'New Immigrant Education Program'. Refer to Exhibit 1 for an overview of the proposed program and the program requirements.
6. Strengthen America's border security

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7. Work with foreign governments to better understand the causes of illegal immigration and collaborate on solutions to address illegal immigration.
8. Provide existing illegal immigrants with a permanent residency status[1] if:
    a. They have no history of significant violent crimes or other types of significant crimes in the United States.
    b. They have lived in the United States for 7 years or more.
    c. They complete 'The New Immigrant Education' coursework described in Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1

Proposed Program Overview

The New Immigrant Education Program is a basic education program that applicants for citizenship can complete on a flexible schedule. This 96-week program can be completed in 2 – 5 years depending on the preferences of the student. In order to complete the program a student's attendance must be 70% or higher. Students can repeat a class up to three times. The program is free.

Proposed Program Requirements

1. Applicant has legally resided in the United States for 7 years or more.
2. Applicant passes a criminal background check in the United States to determine that the applicant has not engaged in significant violent crime or engaged in significant crime of any type.
3. Applicant files annual tax returns
4. Applicant completes 80 hours of Community Service
5. Applicant completes program coursework:
    - Basic English
    - Basic Math
    - U.S. History
    - Business and Employment in America
    - Introduction to America's Legal System
    - Basic Financial Management
    - Basic Computer Skills

[1] Many illegal immigrants are at significant personal risk if they return to their nations of origin. Consequently, we must offer a permanent residency option to illegal immigrants who currently reside in the United States of America.

Immigration

Sample 3 Year Schedule

Sample Schedule Year 1*	Total Hours: 4 Hours Per Week
Basic English Class	Monday & Saturday 1 Hour Class
Basic Math Class	Monday & Saturday 1 Hour Class

Sample Schedule Year 2 *	Total Hours: 6 Hours Per Week
Basic English Class	Tuesday & Friday Evening 1 Hour Class
Basic Math Class	Tuesday & Friday Evening 1 Hour Class
U.S. History	Tuesday & Friday Evening 1 Hour Class

Sample Schedule Year 3*	Total Hours: 6 Hours Per Week
U.S. History	Monday Evening & Saturday 1 Hour Class
Business and Employment in America	Monday Evening & Saturday .5 Hour Class
Introduction to the America's Legal System	Monday Evening & Saturday .5 Hour Class
Basic Financial Management	Wednesday & Saturday 1 Hour Class For 4 Months
Basic Computer Skills	Wednesday & Saturday 1 Hour Class For 4 Months

Let's make this change together. Together, we can restore America by strengthening and building upon the foundation that makes us a tough competitor, a fearless innovator, and a determined, courageous nation.