Evangelicals for Biblical Immigration (EBI)

September 27, 2013

Speaker Boehner and Esteemed Members of the United States House of Representatives ~

Warm autumn greetings, with thanks for your leadership. The latest polling data, attached, confirms that 82% of evangelical Republicans join a large cross-section of Americans who oppose an influx of foreign labor. 83% want all employers to use E-Verify.

Please do not be fooled. The pro-‘Gang of Eight’ “evangelical” campaign is quietly funded by the National Immigration Forum. The NIF’s largest donor is open border globalist, anti-Christian activist, Mr. George Soros. He and allies hurt nations by funding advocacy of weak borders, debt escalation, anti-biblical morality campaigns, and they profit from ensuing chaos. Further, the NIF’s “evangelical” group misrepresented “170 evangelical leaders” in their May 2nd Letter to Congress. Leaders were not told that their names would be used to endorse a 1,200-page bill they had neither read nor understood. These tactics are unusual, unchristian and unkind.

God loves everyone. In Scripture, we do not find the teaching of blanket amnesty or citizenship into a nation. Rather, we find wise discernment for culture-shaping — at times welcome, and at times walls. A balanced understanding of Scripture includes justice to citizens and kindness to guests. We have not seen, in the Senate bill, justice to citizens. Rather, we see:

An influx in foreign labor though 20,000,000 Americans are unemployed

Unfairness to our elderly who have paid into healthcare & other breaking safety nets

Pres. Obama’s Dept. of Homeland Security appointments given discretionary power over border control. Weak borders allow more MS-13 gangs, Islamists, drugs, weapons.

Eric Holder’s Dept. of Justice is still given discretionary power for asylum to foreigners, perhaps not unlike the Boston Marathon enemies seeking asylum, including a multi-year appeal process to those who are denied asylum. (See S. 744 Sections 3401, 3502, 3504)

An unsustainable pricetag, with 30-year projections in the trillions of dollars on top of our existing $17,000,000,000,000 (trillion) national debt.

We applaud Senators Lee and Sessions who urged you in a recent letter, “Please do not pass individual, incremental bills only to have them cobbled together in a backroom deal with Senate Majority Leader Reid and the Gang of Eight.” Christians and other citizens realize that President Obama and the Senate are pressuring you in favor of amnesty, asylum and immigration. But weakening the strong does not strengthen the weak. Whom would Jesus indebt or endanger? We ask you to stand for American security, sovereignty, sustainability, freedom and opportunity. Senators Lee and Sessions spoke of the “legislative monstrosity” of the bill. They urge you:

"If House members allow any of their proposals to be combined into an omnibus immigration bill, they would, in effect, allow White House strategists and their special interest allies to determine the final outcome of immigration much the way they shaped the
creation of the original Gang of Eight bill." (Sept. 22, 2013 joint letter by Senators Lee and Sessions)

Please, do not give us secret deals and back-door amnesty. Yes, our own ancestors all came as immigrants; however, they came gradually, they obeyed the laws of the nation and they came to work and serve as blessing to the nation. They helped build America and it is our duty to steward the culture they so lovingly built. They loved America. So do we.

The biblical idea of the “sojourner” to be welcomed (ger in Hebrew) is akin to a convert to the original faith and values of the nation. Like Ruth and Rahab, many are to be embraced. We also find the books of Nehemiah and Ezra, men who were called to build walls in order to protect, to cultivate the good and to grow a healthy culture.

Fifteen hundred (1,500) evangelicals have signed our June, 2013, EBI Letter to Congress asking the Senate to oppose the Gang of Eight (S. 744) immigration bill for its injury to Americans. Thank you for announcing your opposition to S. 744, and we now ask you to prevent House votes on any other bills that would be similar to S. 744 in giving work permits to millions of illegally present foreign citizens or in increasing the legal flow of foreign workers to compete with unemployed Americans. We ask that if you bring forward constructive bills to mandate E-Verify and enable local enforcement that you promise not to allow them to be conferenced with S. 744.

The reform that we do want is wise, biblical balance that includes:

a) Securing of borders resulting in less crime, drugs, violence, economic failure.

b) E-Verify with jobs given to 20 million unemployed Americans including Hispanic-, African- and Caucasian- Americans as well as students, the elderly and veterans.

c) Job opportunities that yields hope, creativity, productivity, wealth and generosity.

When America is working and healthy, we can again welcome guests as citizens. We cannot grow a garden, a family or a nation with incompatible value systems, debt and danger. We want to do justice to the story, citizens and future of America. Senators Session and Lee continued:

“House leaders, therefore, should make absolutely clear that any individual immigration bills must be considered separately by the Senate, not crammed together into a behemoth comprehensive proposal. …. The devil, the saying goes, is in the details. And there are a lot of details in several thousand pages of legislation.”

Our initial letter is signed by 1,500 evangelicals: http://evangelicalsforbiblicalimmigration.com

Thank you for stewarding America wisely and well,

Kelly Monroe Kullberg
President, Christians for A Sustainable Economy (case4America.org)
Leader of ad hoc group, Evangelicals for Biblical Immigration

Abbreviated polling results of September, 2013, attached.
Poll of REPUBLICAN EVANGELICALS
(in politically competitive states)
Survey of 2,720 Likely Republican Evangelical Voters
Conducted during 2013 Senate immigration debate
By Pulse Opinion Research
NOTE: Margin of Sampling Error, +/- 1.9 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence

Excerpts to summarize:
Congress is considering a bill to give work permits to an estimated 7 million illegal immigrant workers. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the work permits?

82% Oppose

Do you agree ... or disagree that the United States is faced with labor shortages and needs more immigrant workers?

80% Disagree

On the issue of fighting illegal immigration, is the government doing too much, not enough or about the right amount?

77% Not enough

SOME in Congress propose work permits for illegal immigrants first, followed by 10 years of implementing border and workplace enforcement to stop future flows of illegal workers. OTHERS in Congress say full enforcement at the borders and workplace must be implemented first and then the work permits can be considered.

Which do you prefer for dealing with the illegal immigrants?

80% Full enforcement first, before considering work permits

Are you more likely to vote for a political party that supports enforcing immigration laws first or that supports legalizing illegal immigrants first?

84% A political party that supports enforcing immigration laws first

What is the government’s most urgent priority in setting immigration policy this year:

68% Protect unemployed Americans from foreign-worker competition

Do you favor or oppose requiring all employers to use E-Verify to electronically ensure that they are hiring only legal workers for U.S. jobs?

83% Favor

In terms of dealing with the illegal immigrant population of 11 million, would you prefer that the United States ...

46% Deport most
32% Deport some but ensure no jobs or assistance for the rest