
CBO: Immigration bill would decrease deficit by \$197 billion over 10 years

Posted on [June 19, 2013](#) by [admin](#)

“In a boost for proponents of comprehensive immigration reform, a new report from the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the immigration bill currently being debated in the Senate would increase the U.S. population by 10.4 million and would decrease federal budget deficits by \$197 billion between 2014 and 2023.”

<http://firstread.nbcnews.com/news/2013/06/18/19025889-cbo-immigration-bill-would-decrease-deficit-by-197-billion-over-10-years?lite>

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [immigration bill](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand on NBC News Discussing Visas for Highly Skilled Workers and the Immigration Reform Package

Posted on [April 7, 2013](#) by [admin](#)



<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/video/#!/on-air/as-seen-on/Visas-for-Highly-Skilled-Workers-and-the-Immigration-Reform-Package/201362261>

April 3, 2013

Transcript of Interview:

Reporter: Immigration is making news again this week and one of the big topics, the expected run on visas for Highly Skilled workers here in the US. Those visas are coveted by companies including Microsoft, Apple, and Google. That coincides with Congressional plans to increase the numbers of work permits for tech savvy immigrants. Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand, an immigration attorney and CUNY law professor joins us now to talk about that and sweeping legislation in the works to overhaul the nation’s agricultural worker program. So Myriam thank you so much for coming to discuss this complicated topic

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Thank you for having me.

Reporter: So tell me about this legislation that is being worked on as soon as Congress reconvenes. What is expected to be included?

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Well, there is this gang of 8 and there is this bipartisan framework for comprehensive immigration reform and there are a lot of topics that are going to be covered. Border protection is one of them but they are also looking to increase the number of visas for highly skilled workers and actually part of the frame work actually talks about giving green cards to highly skilled worker. To individuals that have either a Master's or a Ph D degree from an American University in one of 4 categories, Sciences, engineering, technology, or mathematics. There are also provisions to create a legal path for citizenship for more than 11 million undocumented immigrants in this country and I think that would be fantastic.

Reporter: We were talking a little bit during the break before this segment about how few visas are granted to the skilled workers and that it is already expected that there will not be enough. They will run out. There is something like 85,000.

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Absolutely, there are currently 65,000 visas that are allotted to foreign workers, with an additional 20,000 that are allotted to high skilled foreign workers with US Masters Degrees, for professional visas. The first day you could apply was April 1st. Already the US immigration Service estimated that they are likely to run out of these work visas by the end of this week and they estimated that they might have to create a lottery. We haven't seen that since 2008. Again this is for positions you need to have a bachelor's degree for. These are highly skilled workers. These are people that are really contributing to our economy and to innovation in this country.

Reporter: Do you think this legislation will really make a significant difference? Offer enough more visas for people who want to come to this country?

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: I certainly hope so. That is really important. These are people that are coming here, they are studying in our universities. They are studying here. We are training them and then there aren't enough visas to keep them here. They are going back to their country or to our competitors.

Reporter: And there is a question of unskilled workers and the farm workers two separate categories. There is a debate about how long they should be able to stay, what they should be able to be paid. What are the different sides of that argument in terms of wages?

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Absolutely, just on Friday the AFL-CIO and the American Chamber of Commerce, which are the biggest labor federation and the biggest business organization, came together and actually sat down and were able to come up with a draft. It is called a W visa, temporary visa that would be for lower skilled workers, people in the retail, construction, janitorial services, hospitality industry and basically they came together and were able to come to an agreement starting April 2015. They propose that there would be a certain amount of visas 20,000 the first year, then 35,000, 55,000, 75,000 and after 5 years based on the US economy and the need for these types of workers, they would re-evaluate the amount of visas that would be needed but certainly there will be provision that will be set forth for the protection of American workers.

Reporter: That Americans don't want to fill.

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Right, we don't have workers able or willing to do that type of work.

Reporter: Just quickly, visas and it might depend on the category, does it really mean a gateway to citizenship?

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Absolutely not, I think that is a big myth. As far as "the earned path to citizenship" we are hearing about, it is going to be tough. People are going to have to pay fines they are going to have to pay back taxes, they have to pay penalties. They are going have to go through scrupulous national and criminal background checks. They are going to have to pass English and Civics test. It is not an easy ride.

Reporter: It is not a free ticket.

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Absolutely, it is not an easy ride.

Reporter: All right, Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand thank you so much for shedding some light again on this complicated subject.

Myriam Sanchez Hildenbrand: Thank you so much for having me.

Reporter: Thank you for being here tonight.

Posted in [Commentary](#), [Myriam in the News](#) | Tagged [H-1B](#), [immigration reform](#), [nbc news](#), [visas](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

NY Times: White House Progresses With an Immigration Bill

Posted on [February 17, 2013](#) by [admin](#)

The White House is working on early drafts of a comprehensive bill that would offer 11 million illegal immigrants a pathway to citizenship along the lines of the principles that the president laid out in Las Vegas several weeks ago, administration officials said.

President Obama revealed last month that his administration had already drafted immigration legislation. But he said he preferred to let a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers work out their own bill that could also tighten border security and provide employers with a way to verify the citizenship status of workers.

White House aides said that Mr. Obama remained pleased with the progress being made on Capitol Hill toward a complete overhaul of the nation's immigration system. But they said he would be prepared to submit legislation if the effort among lawmakers stalls.

On Saturday, USA Today reported that it had obtained portions of the president's draft legislation. The newspaper said the bill would allow illegal immigrants to become permanent residents within eight years and in the meantime could apply for a "Lawful Prospective Immigrant" visa. Mr. Stevens and other White House officials declined to comment on specific details of the report.

Those details are similar to the statement of principles that the White House provided to reporters after Mr. Obama's Las Vegas speech. A fact sheet said the president wanted to strengthen border security, provide "earned citizenship," streamline legal immigration and crack down on employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/17/us/politics/white-house-moves-ahead-on-its-own-immigration-bill.html?](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/17/us/politics/white-house-moves-ahead-on-its-own-immigration-bill.html?hp)

[hp](#)

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [immigration bill](#), [obama](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Bipartisan Immigration Reform within Months?

Posted on [January 29, 2013](#) by [admin](#)

A bipartisan group of senators formally unveiled an immigration reform framework that they hope the Senate could pass “in overwhelming and bipartisan fashion” by late spring or early summer.

Speaking at a press conference on Monday on Capitol Hill, five of the eight members of a bipartisan working group announced the contours of their agreement, which would shore up America’s borders and provide an eventual path to citizenship for undocumented workers.

The major development involves the pathway to citizenship for undocumented workers that would be established under the Senate plan.

http://firstread.nbcnews.com/_news/2013/01/28/16741007-senators-hope-to-approve-bipartisan-immigration-reform-within-months?lite

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [immigration reform](#), [senate](#), [undocumented workers](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Paperwork Hitch Landed this Immigrant in ‘Hell on Earth’

Posted on [August 22, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

Floyd Herbert Abdul, a native of Zimbabwe living legally in the United States, was detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on November 24th, 2006. He was plunged into a bureaucratic system that he describes as “hell on Earth”. Abdul’s nightmare started when he never received a letter informing him of an upcoming immigration hearing because the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement sent it to an outdated address. Abdul is seeking political asylum in the U.S. because of his opposition to Zimbabwe dictator Robert Mugabe. Although US ICE eventually agreed to release Abdul on \$25,000 bail, the memories of the harsh conditions he endured for 4 months lingered.

http://openchannel.nbcnews.com/_news/2012/08/22/13400142-paperwork-hitch-landed-this-immigrant-in-hell-on-earth?lite

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [Department of Homeland Security](#), [Deportation](#), [Etowah County Detention Center](#), [Floyd Herbert Abdul](#), [immigration detention](#), [in absentia order](#), [political asylum](#), [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement](#), [Zimbabwe](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Chasing A ‘Dream’: Immigrant Youth Seek Legal Status

Posted on [August 14, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

Yelky Perez, a Dominican young girl who claims she entered the U.S. illegally from the Dominican Republic at age 13 to reunite with her family is hoping to join the hundreds of thousands of young undocumented adults who meet all the standards to apply for the Obama administration’s deferred action program. If granted, Yelky will receive a

two-year work permit. Deferred action will also prevent her from being deported. Perez is one of the many young undocumented immigrants who came at an early age to this country who qualify for the deferred action program.

Read More:

http://usnews.nbcnews.com/_news/2012/08/14/13279363-chasing-a-dream-immigrant-youth-seek-legal-status?lite

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [Deferred Action](#), [Dominican Republic](#), [Dream Act](#), [Dreamers](#), [Obama Administration](#), [President Obama](#), [Yelky Perez](#), [young undocumented adults](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

President Obama's Deportation Deferral Order Is Legal

Posted on [July 26, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

After President Obama's decision to temporarily defer deportations for certain young undocumented immigrants, Rep. Steve King immediately stated his intention to challenge its legality in court. However, based on established legal precedent, many legal experts believe his lawsuit is meritless and will be quickly dismissed. Not only is deferred action legal, it has been in regular use since before the administration's recent decision.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-bier/obamas-deportation-deferral-order-is-legal_b_1699216.html

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [Commissioner Doris Meissner](#), [Department of Homeland Security](#), [Deportation Deferral Order](#), [Immigration and Naturalization Services](#), [President Barack Obama](#), [Representative Steve King](#), [young undocumented immigrants](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Judge Overrules Immigration Authorities, Orders Virginia Muslim be Naturalized

Posted on [July 25, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

A nearly five-year legal saga will conclude this Thursday for Falls Church resident Jamal Abusamhadaneh when he takes the oath of citizenship at a federal courthouse, following a federal judge's ruling that immigration authorities wrongly drew sinister conclusions about aspects of his Muslim faith. Abusamhadaneh's naturalization resulted from an unusual ruling that overturned the denial of his application by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services last month.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/judge-overrules-immigration-authorities-orders-va-muslim-be-naturalized/2012/07/25/gJQA1sh68W_story.html

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [Falls Church](#), [FBI](#), [Jamal Abusamhadaneh](#), [Muslim Brotherhood](#), [naturalization](#), [oath of citizenship](#), [U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services](#), [U.S. District Judge James Cacheris](#), [Virginia](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Arizona Sheriff Known for Immigration Crackdowns Takes Stand, Addresses Ku Klux Klan Comment

Posted on [July 24, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

Today, Arizona sheriff, Joe Arpaio, known nationally for his hardline stance on immigration took the witness stand and faced allegations that his trademark immigration sweeps amounted to racial profiling against Latinos.

Arpaio was asked about a statement in which he called undocumented immigrants “dirty”. A group of Latinos who claimed they were discriminated against filed the civil lawsuit against the sheriff and wrote an autobiography titled “America’s Toughest Sheriff”. Arpaio has long denied racial profiling allegations and stated that he does not arrest people because of their skin color. The plaintiffs are not seeking money damages in the suit. Instead they are seeking a declaration that Arpaio’s office racially profiles Latinos and an order requiring policy changes. The trial which began last week is expected to close next week, and will be decided by U.S. District Judge Murray Snow.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/ariz-sheriff-known-for-immigration-crackdowns-to-take-stand-in-suit-alleging-racial-profiling/2012/07/24/gJQAMsO05W_story.html

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [Arizona](#), [civil lawsuit](#), [Hispanics](#), [Latinos](#), [Maricopa County](#), [racial profiling](#), [Sheriff Joe Arpaio](#), [U.S. District Judge Murray Snow](#), [undocumented immigrants](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Some States Can Check Voters against Immigration Database

Posted on [July 17, 2012](#) by [admin](#)

The federal government is expanding access to an immigration database so several states can use it to identify ineligible voters. Homeland Security Department representatives notified Florida officials last week regarding this new federal database which will allow them to check the immigration status of voters.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-voter-purge-20120717,0,3803517.story>

Posted in [News Articles](#) | Tagged [citizenship status](#), [Department of Homeland Security](#), [federal database.](#), [Federal Government](#), [Florida](#), [immigration database](#), [immigration status](#), [states](#), [voters](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Proudly powered by [WordPress](#).