

U.S. Border Security.Info

Volume 4, Issue 2, February 2010

February's Sneak of the Month: Florida Governor Charlie Christ

Committee Warns of Likely Health Care-Amnesty Deal

The U.S. Border Security Council is warning that the Obama Administration and members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus may be negotiating a complicated deal that secures the support of Hispanic Democrats in return for the Administration's support for fasttracking an immigration amnesty bill.

"The wheeling and dealing is incredible," says Committee Executive Director Brice Griffin. "The President desperately wants to force through his health care bill but the Hispanic Caucus wants

something in return for their support. They want an amnesty bill and they want it this year.

Thanks to massive public opposition and the fact that the health care bill has Congress so preoccupied, the administration's plans for pushing through an amnesty bill by the end of Obama's first year in office have fallen through. Now, however, with the health care bill seemingly stalled and militant amnesty supporters in Congress

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White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emmanuel is likely negotiating a deal to fast track and immigration amnesty bill through Congress. The immigration measure may be linked to the passage of the Administration's health care plan.

Lindsey Graham Emerges as a Leader of Pro-Amnesty Senators

South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham is emerging as a key leader supporting an immigration amnesty bill. Graham, a Republican, is often considered to be the protege of amnesty-supporting GOP Senator John McCain. However, McCain faces a difficult primary challenge for the Republican nomination and seems to be taking a much lower than expected profile on immigration issues.

"Graham has been a big supporter of amnesty since day one," explains U.S. Border Security Council Executive Director Brice Griffin. "However, this year he is taking a leading role in negotiating with the White House on a comprehensive amnesty bill."

Graham has made a number of trips to the White House ostensi-

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Republican Senator Lindsey Graham has taken the lead in supporting an amnesty bill in the U.S. Senate from John McCain

Border Security News in Brief

Helicopter Rescues Illegal Alien

An illegal immigrant suffering from hypothermia was rescued from a mountain by a San Diego firefighting helicopter. The man and a companion had crossed the border and became trapped overnight in the rain. The alien's friend hiked down the mountain and found some Border Patrol officers and then led them back up to show them his friend.

Aliens Arrested Then Set Free in Missouri

Fourteen illegal immigrants were arrested in St. Francois County at a construction site by local authorities. The men were hired to help build a new hotel. The sheriff called the Office of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, however ICE agents refused to process the illegals. Having no authority to hold the men, the sheriff was forced to set them free.

Border Patrol and Mexican Federales Cooperate

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, in Nogales Arizona U.S. Border Patrol agents and Mexican federal police officers are training together, sharing intelligence and coordinating patrols for the first time. The goal of the historic partnership: a systematic joint attack on northbound flows of drugs and migrants, and southbound shipments of guns and cash. corridor.

SNEAK OF THE MONTH: Florida Governor Charlie Christ

February's "Sneak of the Month" is Florida Governor Charlie Christ.

Christ, a Republican running for the nomination for the U.S. Senate, emphatically defended illegal aliens being counted in the U.S. Census stating that not counting them would result in Florida receiving less money from the federal government.

In a statement defending the counting of illegals to the press Christ said, "It is

important. It's important to our state, it's important to our people. And the notion that you would not want to accept federal funding to make a political statement is absurd."

Christ did not address the issue of illegal aliens being a massive financial burden on the state of Florida.

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Amnesty (continued from page 1)

complaining, the stage seems set for some type of grand bargain.

“Leaders of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have been shuttling between Capitol Hill and the White House for weeks,” explains Griffin. “They are not at all pleased that President Obama hasn’t pushed it through yet and they are playing hardball. My guess is they will withhold their support of health care until they get a promise from the Administration to pursue amnesty this year.

Some pundits are claiming that the push for amnesty is dead for the year but Griffin isn’t buying it. “I’ve watching Congress on this issue for years. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate leader Harry Reid will make a big push this year to pass amnesty. They know this may be their last chance

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to pass this nonsense.”

In the Senate, Harry Reid has already introduced Senate Bill 9 (S.9) which is his version of comprehensive immigration reform. Republican Lindsey Graham is also agitating for the Administration to move on amnesty and is work-

ing with liberal New York Senator Charles Schumer to develop a so-called bipartisan bill.

“All the pieces are falling into place for an all out blitzkrieg-like offensive to ram amnesty through this summer,” warns Griffin. “President Obama just needs to clear the way in the House.”

For its part, the Committee is preparing for the worst. Already Griffin has written an urgent appeal to Committee supporters asking them to sign and return an emergency petition to their congressman (see page four of this newsletter). The Committee is also working on lobbying campaigns aimed at the Senate as well.

“If this deal goes through, I think we are in for the fight of our lives,” Griffin says.

Graham (continued from page 1)

bly to discuss immigration issues. He is also known to be working directly with New York Democrat Senator Charles Schumer in order to forge a “bipartisan” amnesty bill.

“Graham may be the key to passing amnesty through the Senate,” Griffin explains. “He actually may be able to bring a few Republicans over to the pro-amnesty side. In no way can we expect that the Republican Party will filibuster and stop this bill in the Senate.”

Four years ago the U.S. Senate passed an amnesty bill with President George Bush’s support. Graham voted for it.

Today, the Obama administration’s plan seems to be to get a few Republicans, like Graham, and pass

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amnesty through the Senate.

“We have absolutely no margin for room in the Senate,” Griffin says. “If Lindsey Graham is willing to work with Barack Obama on

amnesty, it is going to be very, very difficult to defeat it.”

Griffin notes that Graham’s rise to prominence on this issue is particularly ironic. “Lindsey Graham is taking point on this issue because his mentor, John McCain, is fighting for his political life back in Arizona. McCain is desperately trying to distance himself from his past support of amnesty in order to defeat his opponent, J.D. Hayworth, in the primary. Hayworth is beating him up on this issue.”

Griffin urges all committee supporters in Graham’s state of South Carolina to contact the senator and urge him to reconsider his support of an immigration amnesty.

The Newsletter of the U.S. Border Security Council

P.O. Box 96197
Washington, DC 20090-6197
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**From the
Executive
Director:**

Dear Friend,

The pressure you and I have exerted on the Congress has worked very well. President Obama has not been able to fulfill his campaign promise to grant amnesty to millions and mil-

lions of illegal aliens.

However, that might be about to change.

I fully expect that President Obama will try bring “comprehensive immigration reform” to a vote before this summer. He realizes that this may be his last and best chance to get amnesty.

So, once again it is up to the American people to stand tall and fight back. You and I must hold the line and defeat amnesty!

Sincerely,



Brice Griffin
Executive Director

No Amnesty Petition Campaign Aims to Bolster Firewall in the House

The U.S. Border Security Council is launching yet another national anti-amnesty petition campaign as the Obama Administration finalizes plans to push a “comprehensive immigration reform” measure through Congress.

The campaign will arrive in supporters mailboxes in late March and early April.

The petition effort is directed specifically at members of the House of Representatives and is de-

signed to show the politicians that the American people remain firmly opposed to any type of immigration amnesty bill.

“This is a critical campaign,” explains U.S. Border Security Council Executive Director Brice Griffin. “This may be our very last chance to keep an amnesty bill from reaching the House floor. We are, in a sense, trying to sure up a ‘firewall’ there. If the bill never makes it to a vote in the House, it is



The Committee hopes a national petition drive opposing an immigration amnesty bill will help shore up the anti-amnesty “firewall” in the House of Representatives.

effectively dead for at least another year. We need every supporter of the Committee to sign and return their petition to their Congressman and to call them as well. Now is the time to stop this nonsense.”