

ACLU-TN Legislative Highlights: Immigrants' Rights

106th Tennessee General Assembly, 2009 – 2010



Bill	Bill Description	Bill Status	Position
SB 2753 (Johnson) HB 2685 (Hill)	Authorizes employers to require English be spoken in the workplace if necessary to conduct the employer's business	Current Status	Oppose
SB 2693 (Faulk) HB 2490 (Swafford)	Requires the department of education to collect data on students who cannot prove lawful residence in the United States and to issue an annual report concerning the adverse impact of public school enrollment of such students and the cost of public school education for such students	Current Status	Oppose
SB 2660 (Ketron) HB 2940 (Carr)	Requires all written driver license examinations to be given in English	Current Status	Oppose
SB 2231 (Southerland) HB 2102 (Sargent)	Provides that illegal immigrants receive lesser workers' compensation benefits unless it is demonstrated that the employer had actual knowledge that the worker was an illegal immigrant at the time of being hired	Current Status	Oppose
SB 1990 (Marrero) HB 2221 (Stewart)	Requires a police officer to make a reasonable effort to verify a person's identity prior to determining that a citation cannot be issued in lieu of an arrest for a misdemeanor offense because the person failed to provide satisfactory evidence of identification	Current Status	Support
SB 1822 (Herron) HB 0062 (Fincher)	Requires that reasonable efforts be made to determine the nationality of a person confined to jail after being charged with a felony or DUI. If the person is found to be in this country illegally, a law enforcement officer notifies the U.S. department of homeland security	Current Status	Oppose
SB 1821 (Herron) HB 0063 (Fincher)	Specifies that an individual who is not lawfully present in the United States will not be eligible on the basis of residence within the state for: any postsecondary education benefit, including, but not limited to, scholarships or financial aid; or Resident tuition	Current Status	Oppose

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SB 1723 (Bunch) HB 1400 (Evans)	Authorizes Commissioner of Correction to enter into agreement with federal department of homeland security concerning immigration enforcement. Permits corrections officer certified under this agreement to act as immigration officer	Current Status	Oppose
SB 1683 (Ketron) HB 1137 (Shipley)	Enacts “Comprehensive Illegal Immigration Act,” which establishes various provisions regarding immigrants in this state. Creates a presumption that a defendant is at risk of flight when determining the amount of bail, if it is determined that the defendant is not lawfully present in U.S. Requires that all written exams administered to applicants for a driver license or intermediate driver be given in English. Requires that all persons 18 or older provide proof that they are lawfully present in U.S. prior to the receipt of certain public benefits. Requires employers to verify the employment eligibility, prior to hiring, of any applicant for employment through the federal electronic work authorization verification service provided by the federal department of homeland security	Current Status	Oppose
SB 1241 (Bunch) HB 0817 (Campfield)	Prohibits registration of a birth certificate for a child of an illegal immigrant mother unless the father is a US citizen and he provides a written agreement for financial support of child until age 18	Current Status	Oppose
SB 1272 (Bunch) HB 1390 (Dennis)	Enacts “Tennessee Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act,” which requires every agency or political subdivision in TN, to verify the lawful presence in the U.S. of any person over 18 years of age applying for local or federal public benefits, before providing or administering them	Current Status	Oppose

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SB 1141 (Gresham) HB 0670 (Dennis)	Requires a keeper of a jail to notify the department of homeland security of prisoners whose citizenship status in this country cannot be determined at time of arrest from documents in the prisoner's possession or if person is in this country illegally	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0990 (Beavers) HB 0841 (Weaver)	Enacts the "Tennessee Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act," which requires state agencies that are responsible for the administration of state and local public benefits to verify the identity of each applicant for benefits and to also verify the immigration status of each applicant	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0191 (Bunch) HB 0267 (Watson)	Requires a voter to present qualified photo ID before voting; voters without proper identification shall be allowed to cast provisional ballots	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0173 (Ketron) HB 0640 (Maggart)	Requires citizenship status to be proven prior to registration to vote and requires certain procedures to ensure identity and citizenship status prior to voting	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0145 (Ketron) HB 0388 (Carr)	Requires all state agencies and political subdivisions to verify eligibility of all individuals 18 years of age or older before providing public benefits by using the federal "systematic alien verification for entitlements" or "SAVE" program, with limited exceptions	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0122 (Ketron) HB 2049 (Evans)	Requires all state agencies and political subdivisions to verify eligibility of all individuals 18 years of age or older before providing public benefits by using the federal "systematic alien verification for entitlements" or "SAVE" program, with limited exceptions	Current Status	Oppose
SB 0063 (Bunch) HB 0262 (Watson)	Requires that all examinations for driver license to be given in English	Current Status	Oppose