

# Alien Accountability Act

## IMMIGRATION REFORM REQUIRES A REALISTIC WAY TO IDENTIFY ILLEGAL ALIENS

- The population of illegal aliens residing in the United States has grown from about 3 million in 1986 to over 11 million today- and these numbers are only estimates. *Before we can create a system that addresses the millions of people living and working in the United States, we must identify that population.*
- Solutions that merely criminalize presence in the United States will cause millions to continue to hide in the shadows, work illegally and prevent the government and law enforcement officials from identifying a large population. The Alien Accountability Act will allow Homeland Security to identify illegal aliens and provide lawmakers with the information necessary to decide the course of action that will promote our national interests.

## CRIMINAL ALIENS OR INELIGIBLE ALIENS MUST LEAVE

- Those not allowed to participate that must depart include:
  - Newly entering illegal aliens
  - ~~Relatives of participating alien~~
  - ~~Aliens with pending deportation cases~~
  - Criminal aliens or those that present a national security risk
  - Aliens whose application is denied for any reason, including insufficient proof of financial means
- Aliens failing to register and cooperate with DHS have window to depart voluntarily at the alien's own expense. Failure to depart can result in criminal prosecution and increased civil penalties.

## TEMPORARY, NONIMMIGRANT STATUS WOULD ONLY BE AVAILABLE UNDER STRICT CRITERIA

- The Alien Accountability Act would allow illegal aliens to come forward and obtain status. If approved, the alien would receive one year of temporary, nonimmigrant status renewable for up to six years and work authorization.
- To obtain temporary, nonimmigrant status under the Act, an alien:
  - Would need to present in the U.S. before January 1, 2013
  - Must prove that they have been continuous present in the U.S.
  - ~~Must not be in current deportation proceedings or be convicted of a crime~~
  - Must prove that they are able to economically support themselves and dependents. Any approved alien will be ineligible for public welfare benefits.

## BUSINESSES NEED IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO A LEGAL WORKFORCE

- Employers depend on a consistent labor force to continue to operate without disruption in production or service.
- Aliens may be sponsored by their employer to be eligible for adjustment of status. In return for sponsoring its employees and ensuring that they are abiding by tax laws, *employers will be exempted from liability for past employment of the illegal aliens.*