

# el Saltillo

"El Respeto al Derecho  
Ajeno es la Paz"  
Lic Benito Juarez

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## D bill set for OK by Senate

# Lawmakers say Dems can't block legislation aimed at illegal immigrants.

## NCLR Urges Lawmakers to Keep Real ID Act Off Iraqi Appropriations Bill

By Sergio Bustos and Doug Abrahms  
A controversial bill that would require states to verify the citizenship or legal status of anyone applying for a driver's license will likely become law because Senate Democrats don't have the votes to stop it, Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid said Monday.

Aimed at illegal immigrants, the Real ID Act is expected to be included in a final version of an \$81 billion spending bill to fund the war in Iraq, according to Reid, D-Nev.

House and Senate lawmakers begin negotiating a final version of the spending bill this week.

Reid and most Democrats had fought for months against the Real ID measure and succeeded in keeping it out of the Senate version of the spending bill. But Reid said Democrats have decided they would not hold up passage of the Iraq war spending bill solely because it includes the Real ID Act.

Republicans "are going to keep the Real ID (Act) on the supplemental," said Reid, who opposes the measure. "They did it on purpose. They put it on the supplemental, which we couldn't stop" because both parties support the additional funds for U.S. troops.

President Bush has pledged to sign the bill into law if the House and Senate can work out their differences.

Forty-one states already require driver's license applicants to document their legal status, but the bill would require states to perform a more extensive verification.

that do not require proof of citizenship to obtain a license.

The bill would require a uniform license in all states, and states would pay to redesign their licenses.

Besides the driver's license provision, the Real ID Act would:

- Make it tougher for foreigners to win political asylum by giving immigration

judges more authority to decide the merits of the asylum applications.

- Waive local environmental laws to allow the federal government to complete a 14-mile fence near San Diego that separates the United States and Mexico.

A diverse collection of more than 600 groups had rallied in a furious lobbying effort in the Senate to kill the measure

NCLR Strongly Critical of White House Action on REAL ID Act

Washington, DC - The National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy

organization in the U.S., today urged lawmakers to keep the "REAL ID Act" off the Iraqi supplemental appropriations bill and expressed extreme disappointment with the Bush Administration for issuing a Statement of Administrative Policy (SAP) urging the Act's inclusion.

"It is very disappointing that the White House would urge the enactment of the 'REAL ID Act' on this appropriations bill," said Janet Murguía, NCLR President and CEO. "It has no place in a debate which should focus on providing resources to our troops and to victims devastated by the tsunami last December."

The "REAL ID Act," an immigration enforcement bill, was attached to the supplemental appropriations bill by the U.S. House of Representatives. The "REAL ID Act" has never passed the Senate nor has it been considered in the regular committee processes in either chamber. A House and Senate conference committee is currently working on the details of the final appropriations bill. "There is still an opportunity for the conferees to do the right thing and take the 'REAL ID Act' out of the supplemental," continued Murguía, noting that 600 diverse organizations including religious groups, state and local governments, environmental organizations, and immigrant advocates, oppose including this bill in the supplemental.

"Attaching a controversial enforcement measure to an appropriations bill without debate is a bad way to make policy. Congress has a responsibility to address immigration reform in a comprehensive, thoughtful, and deliberative way that truly controls our nation's borders, benefits American families, and enhances our national security," Murguía concluded.



## Contempla que se pueda votar en 2006 con algunas condiciones; falta el dictamen de los diputados

# El Senado mexicano aprueba el sufragio por correo desde el extranjero

Francisco Robles Nava

MÉXICO, D.F.— El Senado aprobó el dictamen para que los mexicanos radicados en Estados Unidos voten por correo en las elecciones presidenciales de 2006, siempre que manifiesten su interés de sufragar, cuenten con credencial y se registren en la lista electoral.

El proyecto promovido por los senadores es drásticamente distinto del adoptado en febrero pasado por la Cámara de Diputados, ya que en aquél se proponían elecciones en territorio estadounidense, semejantes a las que se llevan a cabo en México.

De cualquier forma, para que los migrantes puedan votar desde el exterior en el proceso electoral del año próximo, la iniciativa del sufragio mediante el servicio postal deberá ser discutida y aprobada por los diputados hoy, jueves, o, en su defecto, declararse un periodo

extraordinario de sesiones para la consideración del tema.

La minuta del voto por correo fue aprobada por amplia mayoría de la Cámara de Senadores y de todos los partidos políticos, ya que recibió el aval de 91 legisladores, por dos en contra y una abstención. Veintiseis estuvieron ausentes.

Más de dos horas tomaron los senadores en el análisis del asunto, casi todos para referirse en la tribuna a los numerosos valores que dicen ver en los connacionales que dejan sus lugares de origen para buscar una vida digna en el extranjero.

Asimismo se refirieron, unos más y otros menos, a las deudas que el Estado mexicano tiene pendientes con ellos, y coincidieron en que es el momento de revertirlas con la concesión del largamente postergado derecho político.

Al margen del discurso, bajo el mecanismo acordado, se plantea que del 1 de octubre próximo al 15 de enero de 2006, el IFE recibiría las solicitudes de inscripción de los migrantes que quieran participar en las elecciones presidenciales.

Los interesados serían incorporados a un listado de votantes mexicanos que radican en el extranjero cuyos datos, incluyendo copia de la credencial de electoral y huella dactilar, serían sometidos a chequeo de veracidad.

Después de este trámite, el IFE enviaría a los conacionales registrados la boleta electoral para la elección del Presidente de la República —especial para los residentes en el exterior—, un instructivo y un sobre para regresar la boleta.

Los electores podrían emitir su voto desde el 15 de abril y enviarlo por correo

al IFE, el cual dispondría hasta el 29 de junio, tres días antes de la votación del 2 de julio, para recibir la papeleta.

El dictamen del Senado cuenta con la simpatía del Instituto Federal Electoral (IFE), el Tribunal Federal Electoral, y la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE).

Las instituciones oficiales citadas se habían declarado en contra de la propuesta de los diputados, por considerar que era "inviable" una elección con credencialización, empadronamiento, y casillas en Estados Unidos.

Esta modalidad no sólo fue rechazada por los senadores debido a que resultaría inoperable en términos jurídicos y prácticos, según dijeron, sino también porque pondría en serio riesgo el sistema electoral que se implementa en México.

Lea El Editor Primero

# People En Español's Most Celebrated Issue

The '50 Most Beautiful' - Returns With The Hottest Hispanic Entertainers Of 2005

Eva Longoria, Wilmer Valderrama, Jennifer López & Javier Bardem Top This Year's List

"50 Most Beautiful" Issue Hits Newsstands Monday, May 2

New York, NY-- (HISPANIC PR WIRE)--April 26, 2005--People en Español's top-selling franchise issue, the "50 Most Beautiful," hits newsstands on Monday, May 2, revealing the hottest Hispanic entertainers of 2005. With exclusive interviews and fashion-forward photography, the "50 Most Beautiful" celebrates today's most-talked about Hispanic celebrities including Desperate Housewives' Eva Longoria, That 70's

Show Wilmer Valderrama, megastar Jennifer López, actor Javier Bardem, model Daisy Fuentes, Hitch's Eva Mendes, Gloria Estefan, Mexican superstar Thalía, Guess Who's Zoë Saldña, actor John Leguizamo, singer Paulina Rubio, Without a Trace's Enrique Murciano, singer Ryan Cabrera & Desperate Housewives'

Paulina Rubio, María Celeste Arrarás, Juan Soler Alejandro Fernández y Dayanara Torres, entre otros

Para esta edición de Los 50 más Bellos de People en Español los editores de la revista se dieron como tarea superar la edición de año anterior, brindando algo nuevo y diferente. Después de largos meses de preparación, pues se trata de la edición más esperada por sus lectores, este número logró tal propósito.

A diferencia de previas ediciones, este año la revista adorna la portada con nueve de las mujeres más bellas del mundo del espectáculo. Para esta histórica sección de fotos, People en Español movilizó a un equipo de casi cien personas a Miami, reuniendo bajo un mismo techo a estrellas como la cantante Paulina Rubio, la presentadora de televisión María Celeste Arrarás, la ex Miss Universo Dayanara Torres, la actriz Karyme Lozano, la talentosa Gloria Estefan, la veterana Sonia Braga, y la bellísima Paola Rey, entre otras.



## Comentarios de Bidal Agüero

It surprises me...On second thought, it really doesn't surprise me that local leaders are all eager to support Carl Isett's "Truth in Taxation" Bill when dozens of leaders in other cities and organization are rightly saying that the the Bill will hurt everyone. One person who is against it and is pointing out the real truth is local commissioner Ysidro Gutierrez. According to him, we do not need "Revenue Caps" for Texas. We have the lowest taxes in Texas. HB1006 is wrong for Texas because it results in bigger and more complex government."

The new version of HB 1006 by Isett does the following:  
• uses the inflation factor CPI rather than the local government inflation index.  
Further, an inflation rollback rate of CPI+1% would be an option to the 5% rollback rate rather than an adjustment to rollback. Local governments decide on which rate will apply each year.  
• lowers the rollback rate from the current 8% to either 5% or inflation (CPI) plus 1%, at the decision of the governing body  
• allows for an adjustment to the rollback rate for unfunded mandates  
• lowers the number of signatures required to force a rollback election from 10% of registered voters to 10% of gubernatorial voters  
• requires rollback elections to be held on the next uniform election day (other legislation removes the February date, so that means rollback elections would be in May of the following year); and  
• exempts community college districts from the new provisions.

Another reason HB1006 is wrong for Texas is because it fundamentally changes our system of government from a representative government to government by consensus.  
In Commissioner Gutierrez mind and in our Isett is wrong. We urge all our readers to please call and ask Senator Robert Duncan to vote "NO" on the Senate version of "Revenue Caps" sponsored by Tommy Williams (R - Montgomery County).  
Of course we don't expect much. Duncan is from Lubbock.  
Write to Bidal at  
eleditor@sbcglobal.net

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eleditor@sbcglobal.net

# Corky Gonzalez Led The Chicano March

By Tomás Romero

*Ya siento mis pies en el camposanto.*  
*I feel my footsteps in the graveyard - mi abuelo, Juan de Jesús Romero)*  
 At a certain time you realize most of your life has already happened. Almost every great event or person you were destined to witness or meet has been encountered.  
 Today is such a day.  
 I saw Vietnam and the Chicano Movement up close and personal.  
 I met the father of the Chicano Movement, Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales.  
 Now Corky is dead of heart failure at age 76. Game, set, match and adios, mi gente.  
 Anyone who watches the History Channel knows that Alexander the Great, Cortez, Hannibal, Joan of Arc, Jesus Christ and His Holiness John Paul II were more similar than dissimilar in character. Leaders are proud, vain, single-minded, visionary, imperfect, given to moments of melancholy, fear and doubt. In short, they are human. And all have feet of clay.  
 Corky Gonzales was one of the

two or three greatest men I have ever known. He, too, had feet of clay. Let future historians pick through the chapters of his life with a fine-tooth comb. Most of them won't expose something I didn't already know, and all of them will get something wrong.  
 If you believe Victor Hugo, you think social change happens when it's time, when critical masses of people have risen to create a French Revolution.  
 Others believe in a "great leader" philosophy. I embrace both. The Chicano Movement occurred because Corky Gonzales was ready for the people and the people were ready for him.  
 Latte Latinos may shrug their shoulders now and suggest they've made it on their own, but I know different. Una mano sola no se lava. One hand cannot wash itself. Whether you were a grunt, a foot soldier or a "heavy" in the Chicano Movement, you knew Corky commanded the stage, was the catalyst for nearly every battle fought.  
 Only César Chávez can be mentioned in the same breath.

It was more fashionable, though, to like and admire César. As it was more fashionable to like Dr. Martin L. King Jr. than Malcolm X.  
 Corky wouldn't sit down and have a cup of tea with you. He'd grab you by the throat and ask you why you were taxing the damn thing.  
 Corky helped a lot of us find our cojones. Some of us became courageous constructive agitators, and some of us went on to become scumbags who used El Movimiento for selfish, pathologically bizarre behavior.  
 At their height, Corky and the Chicano Movement were brilliant and oh so awesome. I recall how my temples pounded with emotion as Corky led the first 16th de Septiembre march through downtown Denver. It wasn't a parade then. It was a by-the-thousands protest march! And it wasn't followed by a select few of us sitting in the corporate VIP tent sipping free beer.  
 No one else did more than Corky: The anti-war Chicano Moratorium march in Los Angeles, national student conferences,

intellectual discourse, challenging Chicano university students to do something, supporting farmworkers' rights and political empowerment.  
 He gave us I Am Joaquín - one of the two great poems ever written by and for Chicanos. Only Stupid America, by Lalo Delgado, is comparable.  
 Lalo's poem, however, was a prayer and I Am Joaquín was an angry roar, an anthem of liberation as powerful and profound as Martin Luther posting his protest on the door of a church. Martin Luther, Gandhi and Mother Theresa sought to change a world order.  
 Corky changed the American order. If you're wondering how Latinos became so "hot," it's because a valiant, hot-blooded bronze-skinned warrior once shouted "¡No más, no más!!"  
 (Tomás Romero is a former Denver Post columnist and long-time contributing columnist with Hispanic Link News Service. Contact him at [romerotr@juno.com](mailto:romerotr@juno.com).)  
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# Corky Gonzales - Lideró del Movimiento Chicano

Tomás Romero

*Ya siento mis pies en el camposanto.*  
*-mi abuelo, Juan de Jesús Romero*  
 Llega un momento en la vida en que uno comprende que la mayor parte de su vida ha pasado. Un momento en que has conocido a casi todas las personas importantes que estabas destinado a conocer, o que has presenciado todos los acontecimientos grandiosos que debías presenciar.  
 Hoy es ese día.  
 Conoci la guerra de Vietnam y el movimiento chicano muy de cerca y de manera personal.  
 Conoci al padre del movimiento chicano, Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales.  
 Ahora Corky ha fallecido por causa de una insuficiencia coronaria a la edad de 76 años. Todo fue participar, ganar y despedirse: adiós, mi gente.  
 Cualquiera que vea el canal de historia sabe que entre Alejandro Magno, Cortez, Anibal, Juana de Arco, Jesucristo y Su Santidad, Juan Pablo II existían más semejanzas de carácter que desemejanzas. Los líderes son orgullosos, arrogantes, decididos, visionarios, imperfectos e inclinados a tener momentos de melancolía, temor y duda. En resumidas cuentas, son humanos. Y todos tienen pies de barro.

Corky Gonzales ha sido uno de los dos o tres hombres grandes que he conocido en mi vida. El también tenía pies de barro. Dejemos que los futuros historiadores repasen muy detenidamente los capítulos de su vida. La mayoría no descubrirá algo que yo ya no conozca y todos ellos expondrán algo incorrecto.  
 Si usted le cree a Víctor Hugo, pensará que el cambio social se da cuando llega el momento, cuando las masas desesperadas se levantan para crear una revolución, como sucedió con la Revolución Francesa.  
 Otros creen en la filosofía del "gran líder". Creo en ambas filosofías. El movimiento chicano se dio porque Corky Gonzales estaba preparado para la gente y la gente estaba preparada para él.  
 Los latinos de épocas más recientes pueden encogerse de hombros y sugerir que han alcanzado sus metas solos, pero sé que no es así. Una mano sola no se lava. Independientemente de que usted fuera soldado raso, soldado de infantería o uno de los grandes del movimiento chicano, sabe que Corky dominaba el escenario, que era el catalizador de casi todas las batallas libradas.  
 Sólo puede mencionarse el nombre de César Chávez junto

con el de Corky.  
 Sin embargo, estaba más en boga sentir simpatía y admiración por César. De la misma manera estaba de moda sentir más simpatía por el Dr. Martin L. King Jr. que por Malcolm X.  
 Corky no se sentaba contigo a tomar una taza de té. Te agarraba por el cuello y te preguntaba por qué criticabas la maldita cosa.  
 Corky ayudó a muchos de nosotros a descubrir nuestros cojones. Algunos de nosotros nos convertimos en agitadores valientes y edificadores y algunos de nosotros llegamos a ser cabrones que utilizamos El Movimiento para conducirnos de manera egoísta y patológicamente extraña.  
 En pleno auge, Corky y el movimiento chicano fueron brillantes, y ¡oh! tan impresionantes! Recuerdo cómo latían mis sienes con emoción mientras Corky encabezaba, a través del centro urbano de Denver, la primera marcha en conmemoración del 16 de septiembre. En esa época, no era un desfile. Era una marcha de protesta de miles de personas. Y a la marcha no la seguía un grupito de escogidos, sentados en la carpa corporativa de personas muy importantes, bebiendo cervezas.  
 Nadie hizo tanto como Corky: la marcha, realizada en Los Angeles, de Moratoria Chicana contra la

guerra, las conferencias nacionales para estudiantes, el discurso intelectual emplazando a los estudiantes universitarios chicanos a hacer algo, el apoyo a los derechos de los agricultores y la capacitación política.  
 Nos dejó I Am Joaquín, uno de los dos grandes poemas escritos por y para los chicanos. Sólo Stupid America, de Lalo Delgado, puede compararsele.  
 Sin embargo, el poema de Lalo era una oración, mientras que I Am Joaquín era un rugido furioso, un himno de liberación tan poderoso y profundo como la protesta fijada por Martin Luther en la puerta de una iglesia. Martin Luther, Gandhi y la Madre Teresa buscaban cambiar el orden mundial.  
 Corky cambió el orden estadounidense. Si usted se está preguntando cómo los latinos llegaron a ocupar el lugar que ocupan en la actualidad, la razón es porque un valeroso y apasionado guerrero de tez cobriza una vez gritó: "¡No más, no más!!"  
 (Tomás Romero se desempeñó como columnista del Denver Post y ha sido, durante largo tiempo, columnista colaborador con Hispanic Link News Service. Comuníquese con él a: [romerotr@juno.com](mailto:romerotr@juno.com).)  
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# Oh Say, Can You See?

by Nephtalí De León

See how they fall one by one  
 the giants of our time  
 their footprints quickly gone  
 as if they never walked the earth  
 who will remember their speech  
 volcanos in full rage  
 who will recall their fever-pitched passion in full speed  
 to break the chains of institutional disgrace  
 leveled so violently against a race?  
 perhaps an article or two  
 an e-mail here and there  
 or maybe just a celebration in some town  
 by their close friends

but in the end that racist  
 and unkind distinction  
 condemns into extinction  
 that native cry for life  
 so ruthlessly destroyed  
 in bondage still in spite  
 of many passing years...  
 no sound no resonance  
 is heard  
 their voice is mute  
 the ground is restless  
 with their buried bones  
 a million classrooms  
 are untouched  
 cloistered away from real events  
 real records real archives  
 of giants who did leave  
 their footprints there so plain to see  
 from sea to shining sea  
 and the words of one  
 so often quoted bard  
 remain a hypocritical  
 and empty dirge  
 oh say can you see  
 by the dawn's early light?  
 Copyright Nephtalí De León

# Julián Castro for Mayor

Nephtalí De León  
 Out of the barrio poverty streets  
 along comes something pretty neat  
 Raza, Rosie, with a destiny to meet  
 bears two sons - like in an Aztec-  
 Maya myth born fully armed and  
 standing on their feet!  
 Twins, cuates, pura Raza,  
 ni gabachos ni mayates  
 cosmic like the universe  
 born with an empty purse  
 strait is their gate and their road is  
 narrow but they're skilled with the  
 bow and arrow!  
 Off they go  
 Indios in tennis shoes!  
 to Stanford, Harvard University,  
 they earn their law degrees!  
 One brother says  
 I am Joaquín  
 and I'm not joking  
 becomes state Rep and goes to  
 Austin!  
 His double twin he sticks around  
 becomes the youngest councilman in  
 town Distric 7 - the clock is ticking  
 to eleven —upon the 12th hour he  
 becomes the youngest  
 candidate for mayor  
 Layer upon layer  
 of ancestral grace  
 comes into the race  
 when old power has to rub its eyes  
 I think I'm seeing twice  
 I think I'm seeing double  
 I think I'm seeing trouble!  
 And the foreign regime convenes  
 accuses Julian Castro de violaciones  
 y manipulaciones y que los fondos...  
 y que all Mexicans look alike  
 y que your brother looks like you...  
 could be an alien!  
 Orale... This is a chocolate town  
 made of chile  
 mesquites y nopales  
 (not to mention tamales)...  
 You're the star wars  
 and you came up with E.T.  
 This is a fiesta town  
 I'd be happy to share it with you

no matter where you come from  
 you don't gotta have a passport  
 only you gotta stop stealing  
 and wheeling and dealing  
 with everything in my home  
 sí, mi casa es su cantón  
 pero no me deje  
 ¡ sin calzón!  
 Don't know if this was really  
 a legal brief (a legal chón)  
 but it went down  
 in the town as the naked truth  
 and all the Indios  
 and the Indias cheered  
 because there was  
 another Pancho Villa here  
 with the spirit of Zapata  
 and Cesar Chavez  
 and he loved Selena  
 y un tazón de avena  
 tacos al carbón  
 con rice and beans  
 this young man  
 Julian Castro  
 mythic twin  
 ¡de Joaquín!  
 And the undocumented  
 Europeans  
 just said  
 José  
 can you see...  
 No...  
 Es Julián  
 hey they look alike  
 the whole bunch of them  
 Simo'n que sí  
 Julian is our son  
 proud born hijo  
 of our native race  
 candidate for mayor  
 of our Yanahwanna cantón  
 even  
 if you no wanna  
 mi tíá se llama Juana  
 yo como tortillas  
 tú come banana  
 Julián Castro for Mayor  
 and let the town be merry  
 —after all, we already got  
 an enchilada colored  
 library!  
 Hey, Julián Castro for Mayor  
 es bilingua!  
 y dice que no tá feyo!  
 — Julián Castro for Mayor!  
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# I Still Have a Dream

By Bill Dahl

(c) 2005  
 Across the border  
 We fled one black sky night.  
 Bundled in the arms of a parent,  
 Confused and paralyzed with fright.  
 Too young to understand,  
 Where this journey will ultimately lead.  
 Just following the hopes of mom and dad,  
 To a place where their dreams for something better might succeed.  
 Too young to stop and argue,  
 Too dependent to stay in Mexico alone.  
 What's a child to do?  
 But trust, unable to discuss or bemoan.  
 Today, there are things they didn't tell me.  
 Things I wish I would have known what they meant.  
 Things that now confront me,  
 In this country I call "home," where I was brought without my consent.  
 I'm about to graduate from high school,  
 I obey the golden rule.  
 The United States is the only home I know,  
 To our flag I pledge heartfelt allegiance, Why then are it's laws so cruel?  
 My friends in school have jobs,  
 Saving for college, they work so hard.  
 I want to work so badly,  
 But have no Social Security card.  
 My friends, we like to go places together  
 Teenage fun makes me feel alive.  
 We have to take the bus,  
 The Governor withholds the license I need to drive.  
 Some friends have asked me to join them on a family vacation  
 Trips to Hawaii, Washington D.C., and even Spain.  
 I have to tell them "I can't make it,"  
 I'm without the government issued ID, necessary to board a plane.  
 My family needs better medical care,  
 During the rain this week, I wish I had a coat.  
 My mother and father deserve real employment,  
 Gosh, I wish that I could vote!  
 When I read my history books,  
 The migration from places called HopeLESS to HopeFULL fill it's pages.  
 We just did what millions of others have done,  
 Can you explain what I've done wrong that cause politicians to fly into rages?  
 I have three younger sisters, all born in the U.S.A  
 I adore them oh so deeply however, it doesn't make much sense.  
 How we live as one loving family and They're citizens,  
 while my parents and I are undocumented immigrants.  
 My sisters, they see my tears  
 We pray this injustice will be healed.  
 We're really not asking for much,  
 Just a level playing field.  
 Don't tell me I should "go back,"  
 To Mexico to wander and to roam,  
 Don't suggest I shut my mouth,  
 This is America! It's my home!  
 I don't want your sympathy,  
 My plight today never was my choice.  
 Although we would truly appreciate it,  
 If you would raise your voice.  
 There are millions of children just like me,  
 Whose hopes are unjustly contorted.  
 We can't march or demonstrate,  
 For this we'll be deported.  
 When I rise to pledge the American flag,  
 Mounted on our school wall.  
 I wish you could feel my heart leap,  
 When I speak "liberty and justice for all."  
 My heart, it sings a song throughout each day,  
 It's I Still Have a Dream by Dr. King.  
 The tears I let my sisters see,  
 Flow whenever I hear his voice cry, "Let Freedom Ring!"  
 You might find it silly,  
 To be inspired by America's past.  
 It's the basis for my hope, as I await the words today of Dr. King  
 "Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"  
 Note: This poem is written for the students in Santa Ana, CA that my wife and I have the privilege to live life with. It is written with their tears, desires, energy and compassion.  
 About the Author:  
 Bill is a freelance writer. He is a member of the Christian Writers Guild. Bill has been accepted to begin graduate study at Fuller Seminary in Pasadena, CA. He is published in several professional publications, magazines, websites, newspapers and newsletters. He has been an on-air guest on FOX radio in Los Angeles, CA. He is the author of two manuscripts, presently under consideration for publication. Bill earned a Bachelors and Masters degree at Washington State University. He has taught at the university and community college level. He has extensive public speaking experience and has led seminars throughout the United States.  
 Bill and Jacki make their home in southern California. They have 4 children and three grandchildren. They have three adopted Greyhounds, Dollar, Folsom and Boonie (who would be terribly disappointed if they weren't mentioned here).  
 Bill is an outspoken advocate and activist for U.S. immigration policy reform. Bill and his wife volunteer working with young adults ages 14-22. The Minnie Street neighborhood in Santa Ana, CA that is considered to be one of the most densely populated areas in the United States. Approximately eighty percent of the residents are Hispanic and twenty percent are Cambodian. Historically Minnie Street has been known for its high crime rate, gang activity, drug activity, violence and devastating poverty. Their work focuses on enhancing the lives of children, teens and young adults residing in this area by working together to make their dreams and hopes a reality.  
 In September 2004, Santa Ana, CA was ranked as the #1 Toughest City in America to make ends meet based upon the results of a national study conducted by the Nelson A. Rockefeller School of Government in Rochester, NY.  
 Articles: about Saturday Night Live and the lives of these students can be found at [www.justjesus.us](http://www.justjesus.us) (click on "Saturday Night Live Ministry") with a digital photo library at [www.flickr.com/photos/snlssa](http://www.flickr.com/photos/snlssa).  
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## Bush Touts Technology to Help Solve Energy

WASHINGTON -- President Bush, under pressure to do something about high energy prices, called Wednesday for expanded efforts to harness the "transformational power of technology" to wean the nation from its dependence on oil and gas.

Bush, making his second major energy policy address in a week, proposed several initiatives that he said would help address the supply and demand imbalances contributing to high gasoline and crude oil prices in recent months.

They include government-provided risk insurance for new nuclear power plants, expanded federal authority to approve liquefied natural gas terminals, possible construction of oil refineries on closed military bases, and a tax break for people who buy diesel-powered cars.

But for the most part, the president expressed confidence in the ability of the private sector to expand energy supplies and promote conservation through innovation, with only a modest amount of government involvement to get things rolling.

"In the years ahead, technology will allow us to create entirely new sources of energy in ways earlier generations could never dream," Bush said. "Technology is this nation's ticket to greater energy independence."

Bush's remarks appeared to reflect a delicate political balancing act on the part of the White House.

"He's trying to convey to the public a sense that he's on the job, that he's concerned about high prices ... and that he's trying to find a way to get more energy to the country as quickly as possible," said Stuart Rothenberg, an independent political analyst in Washington.

"It's a tough place to be if you're a politician," said Kim Wallace, chief political analyst for Lehman Brothers, a Wall Street company. "It's probably tougher for this president because he's a market-oriented president and an energy-oriented president. The sensitivities are a little bit higher."

Speaking at a Washington conference hosted by the Small Business Administration, Bush cited a

long list of administration proposals contained in the comprehensive energy strategy drafted by Vice President Dick Cheney in 2001.

He criticized Congress for not enacting his plan, and urged the Senate to begin work soon on its version of energy legislation passed by the House last week. The House measure contains many of the administration's initiatives.

Bush acknowledged that none of his proposals, including the new measures he outlined Wednesday, would have much immediate effect on prices at the gas pump. But he said they would help lead the way toward a more diversified energy supply and reduced U.S. reliance on foreign crude oil.

Bush cited the administration's efforts to promote the development of hydrogen as a fuel source for cars and trucks.

"We're developing new technologies that will change the way we drive," he said. "See, I know what we're going to need to do for a generation to come. We need to get on a path away from the fossil fuel economy."

Bush spoke two days after a meeting at his Texas ranch with Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah that raised questions about the president's willingness to take steps to bring down oil and gasoline prices.

In that meeting, Bush neither sought nor received a commitment from the Saudis to increase oil production. Afterward, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and national security adviser Stephen J. Hadley told reporters that Bush was taking a longer view, with an eye on changing the fundamentals of the market.

Earlier Wednesday, White House spokesman Scott McClellan rejected suggestions that Bush's initiatives were quickly drafted in an attempt to portray the president as responding to expressions of public concern about energy.

McClellan characterized Bush's proposals as part of the president's "ongoing consultations" with staff. He said Bush in "recent weeks" asked aides about additional measures that might be taken.

## Bush Contra las Licencias de Conducir para los Indocumentados

La Casa Blanca pidió ayer a los negociadores de ambas cámaras del Congreso que incluyan la medida Real ID en la versión final del proyecto de gastos de Irak, Afganistán y las víctimas del tsunami, y con ellos causó desilusión, decepción y consternación en los grupos pro inmigrantes y legisladores demócratas.

Entre otras cosas, la medida, si se hace ley, dificultaría la concesión de licencias de conducir a los indocumentados y pondría restricciones al uso de las licencias de conducir para identificarse en asuntos federales. También rechazaría las matriculas consulares para esos mismos efectos.

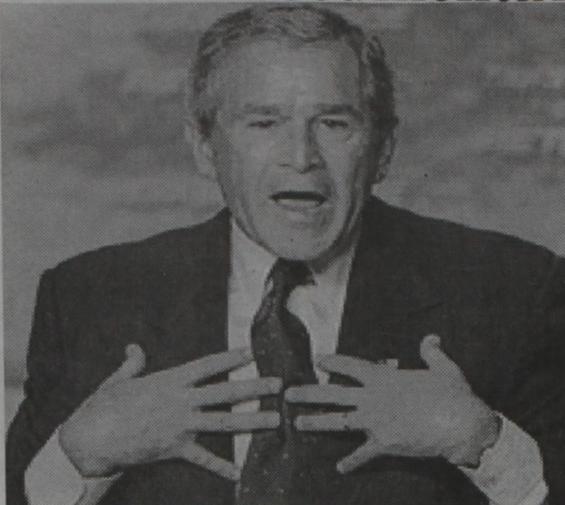
"La Administración insta encarecidamente a los negociadores la inclusión de la ley Real ID de 2005 en la versión final de proyecto [de gastos de emergencia para las guerras]. Esta importante legislación fortalecerá la capacidad de Estados Unidos de protegerse del ingreso de terroristas y de actividades terroristas dentro de Estados Unidos", dice el documento remitido al Congreso con la firma de Josh Bolton, director de la Oficina de Manejo y Presupuesto de la Casa Blanca.

"En particular, la legislación endurece los procedimientos para el ingreso y la presencia de no ciudadanos en Estados Unidos, facilita la construcción de barreras físicas donde sean apropiadas para proteger las fronteras de Estados Unidos, y contribuye a reforzar los estándares estatales para la seguridad y la integridad de las licencias de conducir", agrega la misiva.

Dice, asimismo, que hay aspectos de la medida que son preocupantes y que más tarde se les indicarán a los negociadores para su solución.

La versión de la Cámara Baja del proyecto de gastos incluye la medida Real ID, pero no la del Senado. Los negociadores de ambas cámaras deben conciliar las diferencias de ambas medidas para llegar a una versión única.

"Lo cierto es que los republicanos hicieron esto en una forma solapada", dijo Fabiola Rodríguez Ciampoli, portavoz de Harry Reid. "Ellos sabían que si incluían la Identidad Real en la ley de gastos militares, iba a ser muy difícil rechazarla".



Además de los demócratas, algunos republicanos también se oponen a las restricciones.

Decepción "Nos decepciona que la Casa Blanca haya tomado esta decisión de apoyar públicamente la Real ID porque no creemos que sea la solución de nuestros problemas de inmigración", declaró a La Opinión Flavia Jiménez, analista de asuntos migratorios para el Consejo Nacional de La Raza (NCLR).

Este grupo y otras organizaciones pro inmigrantes enfatizan que la Real ID se ha presentado al país diciendo que garantiza la seguridad nacional, pero sus efectos, dicen, son exactamente lo contrario porque negar licencias de conducir a indocumentados equivale a que permanezcan en las sombras sin saber quiénes son y dónde viven.

Real ID es de la autoría del presidente del Comité de Asuntos Judiciales de la Cámara Baja, F. James Sensenbrenner, republicano de Wisconsin, y establece que los estados pueden conceder licencias de conducir a quien quiera, pero ese documento no tendrá valor identificatorio para fines federales como, por ejemplo, como identificación para abordar un avión o para ingresar a un tribunal federal. A esos efectos, la persona tiene que probar que reside legalmente en este país.

Ya hay 10 estados que conceden licencias de conducir a indocumentados y si Real ID se convierte en ley no están obligados a cambiar sus regulaciones, pero la persona no podrá emplear esa licencia para fines federales.

La medida establece, además, que para probar la residencia legal

las leyes de asilo dándole a los jueces amplia autoridad para decidir los casos y agilizar la deportación de quienes no cumplan con los requisitos.

Pide también que se complete una valla de tres y media millas en la frontera entre California y México a fin de impedir el ingreso de indocumentados dando al Departamento de Seguridad Interna (DHS) toda la autoridad de pasar por alto leyes (en su mayor parte ambientales) para asegurar la construcción expedita de la muralla.

Acción repugnante La congresista demócrata de California y presidenta del grupo latino del Congreso, Grace Napolitano, declaró ayer que la acción de la Casa Blanca no sólo es una sorpresa sino que es "repugnante".

El problema para los demócratas es que Real ID forma parte de un proyecto de gastos para atender las necesidades de las tropas destacadas en Irak y Afganistán por lo cual resulta difícil, si no imposible, tratar de bloquear esa medida por contener el Real ID.

El líder de la minoría demócrata del Senado, Harry Reid, senador de Nevada, hizo "un firme y urgente llamado a mis colegas del comité de conciliación para que omitan la ley Real ID de este proyecto de ley" porque se trata de una medida "insensata" que ni siquiera ha sido considerada en el Senado.

De convertirse en ley, Real ID sería el primer proyecto de inmigración que salga del Congreso dominado por los republicanos.

Los grupos, empero, no se han declarado derrotados y Jiménez, de NCLR, indicó que seguirán presionando para garantizar que Real ID se excluya del proyecto de gastos para los soldados.

La carta de la Casa Blanca también apoya una enmienda demócrata que se incluyó en la versión senatorial del proyecto de gastos que eleva el tope de visados para trabajadores de temporada que actualmente es de 66 mil por año.



## NCLR Strongly Critical of White House Action on REAL ID Act

Washington, DC - The National Council of La Raza (NCLR) today urged lawmakers to keep the "REAL ID Act" off the Iraqi supplemental appropriations bill and expressed extreme disappointment with the Bush Administration for issuing a Statement of Administrative Policy (SAP) urging the Act's inclusion.

"It is very disappointing that the White House would urge the enactment of the 'REAL ID Act' on this appropriations bill," said Janet Murguía, NCLR President and CEO. "It has no place in a debate which should focus on providing resources to our troops and to victims devastated by the tsunami last December."

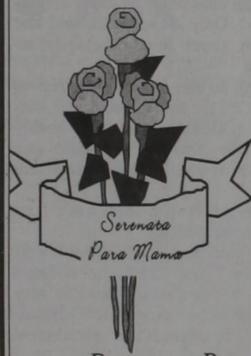
The "REAL ID Act," an immigration enforcement bill, was attached to the supplemental appropriations bill by the U.S. House of Representatives. The "REAL ID Act" has never passed the Senate nor has it been considered in the regular committee processes in either chamber. A House and Senate conference committee is currently working on the details of the final appropriations bill. "There is still an opportunity for the conferees to do the right thing and take the 'REAL ID Act' out of the supplemental," continued Murguía, noting that 600 diverse organizations including religious groups, state and local governments, environmental organizations, and immigrant advocates, oppose including this bill in the supplemental.

"Attaching a controversial enforcement measure to an appropriations bill without debate is a bad way to make policy. Congress has a responsibility to address immigration reform in a comprehensive, thoughtful, and deliberative way that truly controls our nation's borders, benefits American families, and enhances our national security," Murguía concluded.



El Editor

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## Antonio Banderas y JLo. actuarán juntos por primera vez

Los Angeles. - Los actores Antonio Banderas y Jennifer López actuarán juntos por primera vez en la cinta "Bordertown", que será dirigida por el mexicanoamericano Gregory Nava.

La historia del drama se desarrollará en una ciudad fronteriza entre México y Estados Unidos y es la historia de un periodista que se dedica a investigar una serie de asesinatos ocurridos en esa área.

Nava volverá a dirigir a la puertorriqueña López, después de haberla lanzado al estrellato con su primer estelar en Hollywood con "Selena", que ha sido una de las cintas latinas más taquilleras en Estados Unidos.

Representantes de Mobius Entertainment difundieron este miércoles a través de un comunicado que la compañía será la encargada de financiar la producción con los dos afamados actores hispanos.

Se indicó que el rodaje se efectuará en fecha aún por definir, en locaciones de México y Nuevo



México, Estados Unidos.

En 2001, Nava y el español Banderas trabajaron juntos en la producción de "Zapata" para la compañía Disney.

Banderas recientemente estelarizó "Imagining Argentina" y aportó la voz al gato con botas de "Shrek 2" y también seguirá haciéndolo en "Shrek 3".

Entre sus créditos se encuentran

"Matorador", "Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios", "La máscara del zorro", la serie filmica de "Spy Kids", "Pecado Original" y "Mujer fatal".

Por su parte, López estrenará esta semana en Estados Unidos su más reciente comedia "Monster in Law", que ha recibido notables y positivas reseñas en su actuación al lado de Jane Fonda.

# Entre Tacos y Taquitos

Para conmemorar la famosa batalla de Puebla, en la que el Ejército mexicano venció a los franceses que trataban de ocupar su territorio en 1862, bien valdría la pena preparar uno de esos manjares que hacen fusión de ambas cocinas.

En Estados Unidos, en California sobre todo, la preferencia es hacia al lado mexicano, hacia los ricos antojitos que en fechas como éstas saben más sabrosos.

Entre esos antojitos están los tacos y taquitos que, acompañados con una buena salsa o guacamole, son el centro de la mesa de toda reunión.

El taco es uno de los alimentos más populares que se hacen con tortilla, y como dice el chef y escritor de comida Rick Bayless, es a ésta a la que hay que prestarle mucha atención para que el taco sea perfecto.

Bayless recomienda que compre tortillas de buena calidad, que sean gruesas y que no se partan con facilidad. Muy importante es que las caliente al vapor para asegurarse que queden enteritas.

Los tacos y taquitos son comida de fiesta y, para que su agasajo no le falle, a continuación le damos algunas sugerencias.

\* Asegúrese de tener suficientes tortillas, aproximadamente de cinco a ocho por cada invitado.

\* Las tortillas pequeñas se ven mejor que las grandes; además contribuyen a que sus invitados no coman más de lo debido.

\* En una reunión donde se sirven tacos se suelen servir muchos rellenos diferentes. Trate de que no sean más de seis rellenos, aun cuando se trate de una fiesta grande.

\* Sirva aproximadamente dos tazas de cada relleno. Eso es suficiente para que cada invitado se coma de dos a tres tacos cada uno.

\* Además de las tortillas y los rellenos; asegúrese de servir acompañantes, como rábanos picados, cebolla, cilantro, etc.

\* Cuando sirva taquitos, asegúrese de mantenerlos calientes.

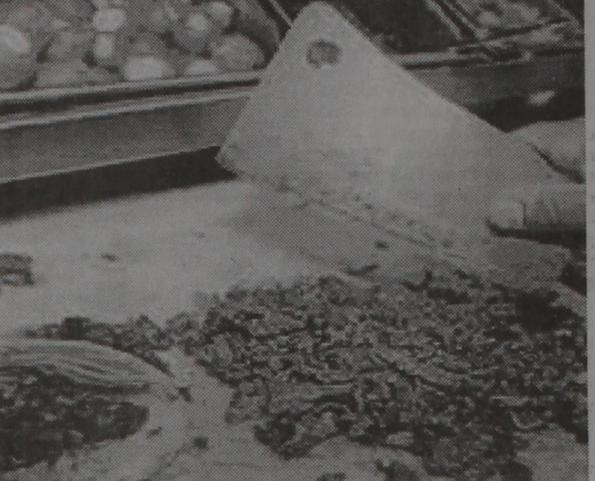
\* Acompañe sus tacos y taquitos con guacamole y añádale limón para que no se ponga negro mientras sus invitados lo devoran.

\* A la mayoría de las personas les gusta los tacos de carne, pollo o pescado; pero pruebe los de papa, queso u otras verduras.

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Recetas

Tacos de requesón y chile poblano

Ingredientes  
4 dientes de ajo, sin pelar  
2 chiles poblanos frescos  
1 taza de queso ricotta  
4 cucharaditas de cilantro fresco, finamente picado (también puede usar tomillo)  
1/4 de cucharadita de sal  
1/8 de pimienta negra recién molida



8 tortillas de maíz  
1 1/4 de taza de guacamole  
3 ó 4 rábanos partidos en rodajas finas

Cebolla finamente picada, para adornar

Cilantro fresco para adornar

Preparación

En una sartén pequeña, ase a fuego moderado el ajo. No añada grasa y espere a que la cáscara se quemé y el interior se ponga suave; aproximadamente 15 minutos. Deje enfriar y después, pique finamente.

Aparte, ase los chiles sobre la llama de la estufa de gas o en el asador del horno de cinco a 10 minutos, hasta que la piel esté bien quemada. Luego envuélvalos en una toalla de cocina o métalos en una bolsa plástica y déjelos reposar por cinco minutos, para que la piel se desprenda fácilmente.

Enjuague los chiles y luego pártalos en trocitos de 1/4 de pulgada.

En un recipiente mediano mezcle el queso ricotta, los ajos, las hierbas frescas y la mitad de los chiles. Sazone con sal y pimienta; cubra y deje reposar.

Aparte caliente las tortillas. Llène en una olla 1/2 pulgada de agua y deje que hierba. Luego envuélvalas sobre la toalla de cocina y colóquelas sobre el vapor del agua hirviendo. Hierva durante un minuto y deje reposar al vapor por 15 minutos, para que las tortillas queden bien calientes.

Antes de formar los tacos, añada al guacamole el resto de los chiles poblanos; luego divídalo en cuatro porciones.

Coloque aproximadamente dos cucharadas de la mezcla de queso ricotta en cada una de las tortillas calientes. Coloque dos tortillas en cada plato, al lado sirva el guacamole y por último adorne con las rodajas de rábanos y el cilantro picado.

Da para cuatro porciones; ocho tacos, dos por personas.

## La Quinta Estación to start major tour

Spanish band La Quinta Estación, which will shortly start a major tour throughout Latin America, Spain and the United States, announced they are working on an unplugged edition of their second album called "Flores de Alquiler", to be launched as a CD and DVD.

In statements to the press, the band's lead singer Natalia Jiménez stated such audiovisual material recorded at the studios owned by producer Armando Ávila will also include new versions of some tracks from their debut album "Primera toma", to be released next September.

She said that in order for the album to have such "intimate" touch, the trio formed by Angel Reyero and Pablo Domínguez invited some friends to the recordings as public and stated other promotional singles will be released from such album.

Besides the new album, the singer of songs like "El Sol no regresa" and "Daria" announced the band will continue working on a series of shows in Mexico to later on start a major tour throughout Latin America, Spain and the United States. Their "Flores de Alquiler" album has sold more than 40 thousand copies in the U.S.

Regarding the success at the Metropolitan Theatre, where the band was awarded for selling more than 150 thousand records, the singer expressed her satisfaction for such an achievement and said that "having sold out such theater was something amazing for us".

She said the band is not plan-

ning to play at Mexico City's main square since, according to her, "it is a much too big stage for us, we have to do the Auditorio Nacional first, maybe some more Metropolitan shows, it is too soon to take over such huge stage".

Jiménez stated an artists never consecrates himself as "one day you sell 200 thousand copies and the next day you won't sell a thing. We have not consecrated ourselves as a band, we are just moving forward, slowly, that's much better".

Finally, the Spanish singer ruled out the possibility of going back to the Metropolitan Theatre soon to wrap up their "Flores de Alquiler" tour.

## A Note from County Commissioner Pct 3 Ysidro Gutierrez

As many of you know the Optimist Boys & Girls club has served the Barrio for many years. On any day there are from 50 to 100 children at the club. Many of us used the Club during our most formative and impressionable years. We understand it's value to the Barrio.

On Saturday June 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. we are having a "Paint the Boys & Girls Club" Party. We want everyone to come work and have fun and do something really worthwhile for the Barrio. This is a great way to give back to the Barrio. Mark your calendars today. Plan to be there.

## Cartas Letters



To whom it may concern,

I recently read the article "With Liberty and Justice for a Few!" in El Editor. I had heard about the despicable act committed by the police officer Blake Littlejohn and was glad to see an article in El Editor about it. People need to know that this terrible act was committed. Perhaps it will encourage them to say something or do something about it. I am a 17 year old high school student at Lubbock High. I am a junior and was wondering if there is anything that I could do to inform people of what happened and ask for justice. I feel as if this case has been somewhat silenced. I was wondering if you could send me any more information on the case. I believe that it is a great injustice. I would like to do something to help remedy the situation or to stop something like this from every happening again. When I read the article in El Editor, I wholeheartedly agreed with the implications of the question, "In an area that prides itself on family values and conservative views, where are those voices?..." There should have been a greater outcry after the story came out. However, if it is not too late, I would like to help remedy that injustice. Please contact me as soon as possible with any questions, comments, or suggestions. Thank you.

-Mercedes Villanueva

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## Ailing Health Care

By PAUL KRUGMAN

Those of us who accuse the Bush administration of inventing a Social Security crisis are often accused, in return, of do-nothingism, of refusing to face up to the nation's problems. I plead not guilty: America does face a real crisis - but it's in health care, not Social Security.

Well-informed business executives agree. A recent survey of chief financial officers at major corporations found that 65 percent regard immediate action on health care costs as "very important." Only 31 percent said the same about Social Security reform.

But serious health care reform isn't on the table, and in the current political climate it probably can't be. You see, the health care crisis is ideologically inconvenient.

Let's start with some basic facts about health care.

Notice that I said "health care reform," not "Medicare reform." The rising cost of Medicare may loom large in political discussion, because it's a government

program (and because it's often, wrongly, lumped together with Social Security by the crisis-mongers), but this isn't a story of runaway government spending. The costs of Medicare and of private health plans are both rising much faster than G.D.P. per capita, and at about the same rate per enrollee.

So what we're really facing is rapidly rising spending on health care generally, not just the part of health care currently paid for by taxpayers.

Rising health care spending isn't primarily the result of medical price inflation. It's primarily a response to innovation: the range of things that medicine can do keeps increasing. For example, Medicare recently started paying for implanted cardiac devices in many patients with heart trouble, now that research has shown them to be highly effective. This is good news, not bad.

So what's the problem? Why not welcome medical progress, and consider its costs money well

continued on page 5

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# The Wrong Prescription for What Ails Us

By Angela Maria Kelley

Starting on April Fool's Day in Tombstone, Arizona, volunteers calling themselves the Minute-man Project began gathering for a month-long demonstration at the U.S. border with Mexico. The estimated 1,000 citizen border patrolers have the wrong prescription for solving the immigration problems that ail us all.

Most of these militia members are as frustrated as I am with our broken immigration system. They are simply pursuing the wrong set of remedies to the problems created by our failed immigration policies.

On one thing, we agree: the immigration system is in desperate need of reform.

Many involved with the Minute-man Project and the broader anti-immigration movement feel we cannot consider reforming immigration until we get control of our borders, but that is precisely backwards. We cannot gain control of our borders until we reform our immigration laws so they match more closely with reality. Reform laws must meet the needs of employers, immigrants and this nation's citizens.

They must also be efficiently and effectively enforced so we can free up our security resources to focus on the threats of terrorism, smuggling and violent crime.

That approach to immigration reform is much more realistic, much more likely to succeed, and much more consistent with our values and traditions as a nation of immigrants.

Generally, the U.S. people don't hate immigrants. But they are uncomfortable with illegality and a government that doesn't seem to be doing its job.

The militia approach is one of guns and aggression.

The better approach is to recognize and regulate reality.

President Bush, Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) and a growing number of leaders in both parties have put a new approach on the table. The "big idea" they support is to create legal channels for immigrants seeking opportunity, allow immigrants already here to come out of the shadows and participate legally in our society, deploy humane, intelligent border security measures, and cut off the black market for fake

documents, exploitative employers, violent criminals, smugglers, and the like.

Only this style of reform will allow us to transform a deadly, chaotic and illegal immigration system into a safe, legal and orderly one.

Making it hard to come here legally and then stirring up outrage about the resulting illegality is a political strategy. Allowing enough immigration to happen legally so that our border agents, intelligence services and law enforcement can focus on legitimate security threats is a security strategy.

But alas, for the entire month of April, the anti-immigration movement has the floor to make their best case to the public about how effective their approach to immigration reform and dealing with undocumented immigrants has been.

Here's my assessment of their record so far:

We've tripled the size of the Border Patrol while quintupling its budget, deploying all manner of military hardware, spy planes, radar and fences. We've just authorized 2,000 more Border Patrol agents in the Intelligence Reform and Appropriations bills in Congress. We're taking away immigrant driver's licenses, putting all of us at greater risk.

We've cut them off from social services. We've reduced immunizations, health care, prenatal care, and educational opportunities for their children. We've made it difficult for them to reunite legally with their families. We've cut them off from the courts, due process and appeals to fight deportation. We've never given them legal rights or the full protections of our labor laws.

And yet people seeking opportunity, freedom and a better life for themselves and their children are still risking their lives to seek the American Dream. And like our fathers and mothers before us, they are still finding that American Dream.

A nation founded, built and defended by immigrants seeking freedom, jobs and a better way of life can surely come up with something more than armed vigilantes as a means of regulating immigration.

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# Mal Remedio Para Lo Que Nos Aqueja

Angela Maria Kelley

Desde el primero de abril, en Tombstone, Arizona, los voluntarios, quienes se autodenominan el Proyecto Miliciano (Minutemen en referencia a la guerra con la independencia de los EE.UU.), comenzaron a juntarse para llevar a cabo una manifestación de un mes de duración en la frontera de los Estados Unidos con México. Los aproximadamente mil patrulleros ciudadanos de la frontera tienen el remedio equivocado para solucionar los problemas de inmigración que nos aquejan a todos nosotros.

La mayoría de los milicianos tienen la misma frustración que yo con nuestro sistema de inmigración malogrado. Pero ellos sencillamente van detrás de una serie de remedios erróneos para los problemas que crearon nuestras políticas de inmigración fallidas. Estamos de acuerdo con una cosa: el sistema de inmigración tiene una necesidad desesperada de reforma.

Muchos de los que participan en el Proyecto Miliciano y el movimiento anti-inmigración más amplio sienten que no podemos considerar reformas a la inmigración hasta no tener control de nuestras fronteras, pero ese razonamiento es precisamente lo contrario a la realidad. No podemos lograr el control de nuestras fronteras hasta no reformar nuestras leyes de inmigración

para que sean más paralelas a la realidad. Las leyes reformadas deben cumplir con las necesidades de los patrones, los inmigrantes y los ciudadanos de esta nación.

También deben hacerse cumplir de manera eficiente y eficaz para dar mayor cabida a nuestros recursos de seguridad para que se enfoquen en las amenazas del terrorismo, el contrabando y los delitos violentos.

Así enfocada, la reforma del sistema de inmigración es mucho más realista, con mayor posibilidad de éxito, y mucho más consistente con nuestros valores y tradiciones como una nación compuesta de inmigrantes.

Por lo general, los estadounidenses no detestan a los inmigrantes. Lo que sienten es incomodidad con la ilegalidad y un gobierno que no parece cumplir con su cometido.

El enfoque miliciano trata de fusiles y agresión.

Un mejor enfoque es reconocer y reglamentar la realidad.

El presidente Bush, el senador John McCain (repblicano por Arizona) y un número creciente de dirigentes de ambos partidos han revelado un nuevo enfoque. La "gran idea" que promocionan es la de crear vías legales para los inmigrantes que buscan oportunidades, permitir que los que ya están acá salir de la penumbra para participar legalmente en nuestra

sociedad, implementar medidas de seguridad en la frontera inteligentes y humanitarias, y eliminar el mercado negro de documentos falsos, patrones explotadores, criminales violentos, contrabandistas, y por el estilo.

Sólo este tipo de reforma nos permitirá transformar un sistema fatal, caótico e ilegal en un sistema seguro, legal y ordenado.

El dificultar la entrada a los Estados Unidos por vías legales, para entonces fomentar el escándalo sobre la ilegalidad resultante es una estrategia política. El permitir que haya suficiente inmigración legal para que nuestros agentes en la frontera, de los servicios de inteligencia y las fuerzas del orden se concentren en amenazas legítimas a nuestra seguridad es una estrategia de seguridad.

Pero, ¡ay de nosotros! Durante el mes de abril entero, el movimiento anti-inmigración tiene la voz para promoverse ante el público sobre la eficacia de su enfoque a la reforma del sistema de inmigración y manera de enfrentar a los inmigrantes indocumentados.

He aquí mi evaluación de lo que hasta ahora han hecho:

Hemos triplicado el tamaño de la Patrulla Fronteriza a la vez que aumentamos cinco veces su presupuesto, implementado todo tipo de dispositivo militar, aviones de espionaje, radar y vallas. Acabamos de autorizar a 2,000

agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza más con los proyectos de ley de Reforma de los Servicios de Inteligencia y Adquisiciones que están en Congreso. Les quitamos las licencias de conducir a los inmigrantes, lo cual nos pone a todos en mayor riesgo. Les hemos eliminado el acceso a servicios sociales. Hemos reducido sus inmunizaciones, cuidados médicos y prenatales, además de las oportunidades de educación para sus hijos. Les hemos dificultado el reunirse con su familia legalmente. Les hemos cerrado las puertas de los tribunales, del derecho a juicio y a apelaciones para luchar contra la deportación. No les hemos concedido nunca la protección completa que otorgan nuestras leyes laborales.

No obstante la gente que sigue buscando la oportunidad, la libertad y una mejor vida para ellos mismos y sus hijos, siguen arriesgando su vida en pos del sueño americano. Y como nuestros padres y madres, el sueño americano lo encuentran todavía.

Una nación fundada, construida y defendida por inmigrantes en busca de la libertad, el trabajo y una mejor vida, podrá de hecho encontrar algo más que vigilantes armados como medio de reglamentación de la inmigración.

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## From Page 4

spent? There are three answers.

First, America's traditional private health insurance system, in which workers get coverage through their employers, is unraveling. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that in 2004 there were at least five million fewer jobs providing health insurance than in 2001. And health care costs have become a major burden on those businesses that continue to provide insurance coverage: General Motors now spends about \$1,500 on health care for every car it produces.

Second, rising Medicare spending may be a sign of progress, but it still must be paid for - and right now few politicians are willing to talk about the tax increases that will be needed if the program is to make medical advances available to all older Americans.

Finally, the U.S. health care system is wildly inefficient. Americans tend to believe that we have the best health care system in the world. (I've encountered members of the journalistic elite who flatly refuse to believe that France ranks much better on most measures of health care quality than the United States.) But it isn't true. We spend far more per person on health care than any other country - 75 percent more than Canada or France - yet rank near the bottom among industrial

countries in indicators from life expectancy to infant mortality.

This last point is, in a way, good news. In the long run, medical progress may force us to make a harsh choice: if we don't want to become a society in which the rich get life-saving medical treatment and the rest of us don't, we'll have to pay much higher taxes. The vast waste in our current system means, however, that effective reform could both improve quality and cut costs, postponing the day of reckoning.

To get effective reform, however, we'll need to shed some preconceptions - in particular, the ideologically driven belief that government is always the problem and market competition is always the solution.

The fact is that in health care, the private sector is often bloated and bureaucratic, while some government agencies - notably the Veterans Administration system - are lean and efficient. In health care, competition and personal choice can and do lead to higher costs and lower quality.

The United States has the most privatized, competitive health system in the advanced world; it also has by far the highest costs, and close to the worst results.

Over the next few weeks I'll back up these assertions, and talk about what a workable health care reform might look like, if we can get ideology out of the way.

## Senator Urges House to Restore Indigent Defense Funding

(Austin)//Senator Rodney Ellis (D-Houston) today urged the Texas House to restore millions of dollars in indigent defense aid to counties to SB 386, the judicial pay raise bill.

Senator Ellis successfully amended SB 368, legislation which budgets \$30 million over five years to give Texas judges a pay raise, to increase state funding for indigent defense by \$8.9 million in 2006, and \$13.9 million every year thereafter to help relieve the current burden on counties. The increase would more than double the amount of money the state currently puts into indigent defense. Last week, the House Judiciary Committee stripped out funding for indigent defense.

"It is pretty darn hard to defend giving judges -- who all make over \$100,000 a year -- a pay raise, boost our own retirement and then tell the counties they're not going to get a penny more to pay for indigent defense," said

Ellis. "That's ridiculous."

Texas currently ranks 43rd in the nation in per capita spending on indigent defense (\$6.71/per capita). A large reason Texas falls so far behind when it comes to protecting the rights of indigent defendants is the state offers little funding assistance to counties. Texas ranks 44th in the nation for state spending on indigent defense; contributing only 9 cents (8.9%) to every dollar spent by the counties.

"The state of Texas spends more money on brush control than ensuring a fair and equitable defense system," said Ellis. "Preventing fires is important; so is preventing injustice."

"Counties were waiting for a thumb's up on indigent defense funding, and right now they're getting the finger," said Ellis. "I can assure you that if Texas judges want a pay raise, funding for indigent defense needs to be restored."

## Castro Suggests Mexico's Fox

Fidel Castro suggested in a speech that Mexican President Vicente Fox take an early retirement to prevent instability or even violence in the current political flap over Mexico City Mayor Andres Manuel Lopez

Obrador.

For Fox to take an early retirement from his post "is preferable to tensions or violence," Castro said in a meandering speech of more than four hours on state television Tuesday.

"This situation isn't looking good," Castro said of the brewing political crisis involving Lopez Obrador, a presidential aspirant who returned to his office Monday morning despite warnings by federal authorities that the job is no longer his.

Lopez Obrador had been away from the mayor's office for two weeks after Congress voted to strip his immunity from prosecution to face charges in an obscure land expropriation case.

Lopez Obrador, who leads public opinion polls in advance of the 2006 presidential elections, claims that members of Fox's administration and other political rivals have pushed the charges to keep him from running. Fox and his Cabinet members repeatedly have denied the allegations.

## Mexico Criticizes U.S. Border

Mexico said it was working to improve security in the border region but suggested the U.S. State Department had overreacted by renewing a warning to U.S. travelers about drug violence in northern Mexico.

As with the original travel advisory, the repeat warning on Tuesday angered Mexicans. The update blamed the continuing violence in Mexican border cities on turf battles between drug gangs but noted that was in part the result of Mexico's success in locking up cartel leaders.

"Imprecisions and generalizations that hurt the spirit of cooperation in law enforcement and the fight against organized crime should be avoided," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement that also promised to investigate crimes against Americans in the border region.

The U.S. announcement includes a new warning that U.S. citizens have been among the homicide victims.

The warning singles out the Mexican border town of Nuevo Laredo, across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas.

More than 30 U.S. citizens have been kidnapped or murdered in the past eight months in that city. Daytime shootouts are not uncommon. And in one case, guns were fired on one of the Rio Grande bridges linking Nuevo Laredo to Texas. In some cases assailants killed U.S. citizens near busy shopping areas and within blocks of those bridges.

Officials attribute the violence to a power struggle within the cartels after Mexican authorities arrested several leaders. Laredo is believed to have some of the most lucrative and established drug smuggling networks on the Mexico border.

Mexico's statement suggested the United States should help, rather than criticize.

"Mexico's government has traditionally maintained that combatting organized crime in the border region is a shared responsibility," the statement said.

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# T-Mac's game winner lifts Rockets to 2-0 series lead



Tracy McGrady had a secret. The only people who knew what he was going to do in the closing seconds of a tie game were his coach and his big man.

Pulling off a plan arranged during a previous timeout, McGrady surprised the rest of his Houston Rockets teammates, and all of the Dallas Mavericks, by not stopping the clock and going straight up the court with 10.4 seconds left. With Yao Ming doing his part by setting a screen near the 3-point arc, all McGrady had to do was bury his shot -- which, of course, he did.

McGrady's basket, a 2-pointer, and a miss by Michael Finley at the buzzer gave Houston a thrilling 113-111 victory over Dallas

on Monday night and a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

By winning both road games, the Rockets can advance by winning the next two games in Houston, starting Thursday night. But McGrady isn't looking ahead, remembering how his Orlando team blew leads of 2-0 and 3-1 in the first round against Detroit two years ago.

"It's a new series for us. We're definitely in the driver's seat," McGrady said. "We've got to stay grounded. We haven't done anything yet."

Actually, McGrady and Yao have done something -- they've established themselves as the Western Conference's new dynamic duo, filling the void cre-

ated by the breakup of Shaq and Kobe.

The preseason hype and hope surrounding their union became a reality with this game, as Yao scored 33 points -- making 13 of 14 shots, with his only miss arguably a turnover -- and McGrady scoring 28.

A McGrady drive-and-dish for a Yao dunk put Houston up 111-109 with 1:06 left. Then Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki tied it by faking McGrady several times and nailing a jumper from around the free throw line with 10.4 seconds left.

During a timeout with 26.4 seconds left, Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy had asked McGrady whether they should call time to set up a last shot. He said he'd

rather spot up behind a Yao screen, then told only Yao what he was going to do.

"They tried to trap me in the backcourt, but I got away from them pretty easily," McGrady said. "I just got the ball up the court. Yao set a great screen. I realized I was by myself when I came off. ... Let me be honest. I don't even know if there was someone else. I was so zoned out. I don't know, I don't care."

Given one last chance to salvage a split at home, Dallas failed when Finley missed a jumper. Mavs coach Avery Johnson said Nowitzki was the first option, but he was double-teamed.

"He had a good shot at the free throw line," Johnson said. "It just didn't go in."

As bad of a hole as this is, Dallas has been in worse. When the Mavs returned to the playoffs after a decade-long absence in 2001, they trailed Utah 2-0 in a best-of-5 series before advancing. This group goes to Houston knowing it can win on the road, having won a franchise-best 29 road games.

"It's possible," Finley said. "It's happened before. It's not like we

have to win the lottery."

The Rockets, however, will be carrying a nine-game winning streak, while the Mavs will be reeling from their first consecutive losses under Johnson. They came into the playoffs 16-2 in his first five weeks since replacing Don Nelson and now have that many losses in three days.

The first concern for Dallas is getting Nowitzki going. He was 4-of-17 -- and 9-of-36 for the series -- when he made a 16-footer in transition with 7:09 left. He scored again on the next trip and put Dallas head 107-106 with 2:32 left on a hook over Yao. Still, he finished 8-of-21 for 26 points. He had just two rebounds and committed three turnovers.

"Every time I come off a screen, they're running somebody at me," Nowitzki said. "I still haven't found my rhythm from the floor."

Five other Mavs scored in double figures, with Josh Howard putting up 17, Jason Terry 15 and Erick Dampier 14. Keith Van Horn came off the bench to score 13, going 5-for-6.

With Yao scoring his most points since getting 40 against Toronto on Dec. 20, and McGrady

making 10 of 19 shots, the Rockets didn't need much else. They got 16 from Jon Barry, including three straight 3s early in the second quarter, and 14 from Bob Sura, including the 3-pointer that put Houston up 109-107.

It was only fitting that this game came down to the last shot considering how the teams fought on every possession. Someone wrote "Energy, Effort, Excitement" on a wipe board in Dallas' locker room before the game, and both teams embodied it throughout, much to the delight of 20,884 fans, the largest crowd in Mavs history.

Players were scrambling for loose balls and hurrying to help on defense. There were several collisions, one leaving Barry's nose bloodied, another sending Houston's Ryan Bowen to the locker room to check his ankle. And that was just in the first half.

The Rockets led the entire first half, by as much as eight, but the Mavericks gained control early in the second half -- for the first time since 12-10 in Game 1 -- and were ahead most of the last two quarters.

## Mosley gets unanimous decision against Estrada

A Shane Mosley was smaller and faster, just like he wanted to be. Something else was also different Saturday night for Mosley -- he was a winner for the first time in his last three fights.

Returning to the ring as a welterweight after losing two straight 154-pound fights to Winky Wright, Mosley was impressive in spurts on his way to a unanimous 10-round decision over David Estrada.

"I wanted to feel myself out and move around a bit, see what was right," Mosley said. "I haven't fought eight ounce gloves in a while and I didn't know what to expect."

Mosley won easily on all three ringside scorecards, with one judge giving him nine of the 10 rounds. He hurt Estrada with left hooks to the body midway through the fight but was never able to put Estrada down.

"I thought I hurt him to the body but he did a great job of

covering the body well," Mosley said. "He's a tough fighter and he had a strong will."

Mosley wasn't the only welterweight giving an impressive performance on the outdoor card at Caesars Palace. Antonio Margarito set up a possible summertime fight with Mosley with an dominating win over Kermit Cintron.

Margarito knocked Cintron down four times before Cintron's corner finally called an end to the fight at 2:12 of the fifth round to retain the WBO version of the 147-pound title.

Cintron was cut in the third round and knocked down twice in both the fourth and fifth rounds as Margarito turned what had been a highly anticipated matchup into one-sided rout.

It was the first loss in 25 fights for Cintron, who came into the fight with 22 knockouts and a reputation as a big puncher and early finisher. But it was the more experienced Margarito (31-4, 22

knockouts) who dominated the fight from the third round on and landed almost at will with big right hands.

"I always said a puncher could be knocked out at any time," Margarito said. "He had not faced anyone even close to the level I fought. I knew that would be the difference in the fight."

Margarito cut Cintron over the right eye with a punch in the third round, and blood flowed into his eye. The blood seemed to affect Cintron, who was hurt by a right hand in the fourth round and then put down by a flurry of punches in his corner.

Margarito put Cintron down again late in the round and two more times in the fifth round before Cintron's corner told referee Kenny Bayless their fighter had had enough.

"We came out confident what we could do to this guy," Margarito said. "We had a perfect strategy for this guy and it showed."



Girl Scouts from Troop #73 were honored Saturday, April 17th at the Annual Girl Scout Recognition banquet at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas with the Bronze Award.

The Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn and symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in community service, leadership and personal development. From start to finish it usually takes more than one year to complete all of the requirements, which includes completing a project that provides community service in or outside of Girl Scouting. "Empowering our Youth" was a six week program developed by the Troop for

younger girls new to Girls Scouts. The six week program was such a success that Brownie Troop #784 was established and continues to meet and participate with Junior Girl Scout Troop #73.

The troop was established back in 1998 in the Arnett Benson Neighborhood. Members of Troop #73 are Cindy Medina, Gloria Sanchez, Soila Olivarez, Lisa Briceno, Brandi Vasquez, Belinda Gonzales, Amanda Gonzales, Loretta Madrid, Amanda Olivarez and Alyssa Guerra. The Troop Leaders are Margie Olivarez and SanJuanita Valenciano. In addition to establishing a new Brownie Troop, these girls have assisted many organizations

within our community and have participated in numerous events including being lead roles in the play at Juanita's Diary.

For many of the girls, receiving the Bronze Award cements the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship and volunteerism. The girls will be traveling to Washington D.C. on June 12th to learn more about our government and what they can do to make their community a better place.

(Photo: Left to Right Margie Olivarez, Troop Leader, Cindy Medina, Soila Olivarez, Brandi Vasquez, Belinda Gonzales, Cindy Medina, Lisa Briceno and SanJuanita Valenciano, Troop Leader)



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