New Poll Finds Only A Few Voters Support
Main Aspects of Senate Immigration Bill

(National survey of 1,000 likely voters on May 20, 2013 by Pulse Opinion Research. Margin of sampling error was +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence.)

- **Only 21% of voters agree with the bill that the U.S. is in danger of labor shortages and needs more immigrant workers.**

The Gang of Eight's S. 744 (as passed by Senate Judiciary Committee this week) contains multiple provisions to increase the importation of foreign labor at every skill level. Supporters of the bill have repeatedly warned that economic recovery is threatened by a shortage of labor available to employers. Sen. Sessions, however, consistently reminded the Committee that more than 20 million Americans who want a full-time job still can't find one and that there is no reason to be doubling the number of new immigrants to receive lifetime work permits. American voters overwhelmingly agree with Sen. Sessions.

QUESTION: ***Do you agree or disagree that the United States is faced with labor shortages and needs more immigrant workers?***

    21% AGREE

    67% DISAGREE

       12% Unsure

                INTENSITY: 8% Strongly Agree

                                  36% Strongly Disagree

- **Only 10% agree with the bill's increase of total immigration.**

The bill increases total immigration from around 11 million per decade over the last couple of decades to 33 million in the first decade after passage of the bill. During the 1950-1980 period, as well as the first two centuries of our country, the average had been around 3 million per decade.   Sen. Session argued in committee that Congress ought to be reducing immigration, not increasing it at this time. Sen. Sessions' position is the most popular among voters.

QUESTION: ***In recent years, the government has issued permanent green cards to approximately 1 million new immigrants each year. Is this number too high, too low or about right?***

    10% Too low

    31% About right

    42% Too high

       16% Unsure

- **Only 26% agree with the bill's offering work permits to illegal immigrants before implementing enforcement measures at the workplace and border.**

The Committee rejected several amendments to require some or all of the enforcement promises in the bill to occur before the 11 million illegal aliens are given legalization and work permits. Even though 40% of voters answered another poll question that they support giving "work permits to an estimated 7 million illegal immigrant workers," many of them are opposed to doing so before all the enforcement promises in the bill are kept, having watched promises in all previous immigration bills of the last three decades be broken.

QUESTION: ***SOME in Congress propose giving permits to illegal immigrants first and then implementing border and workplace enforcement to stop future flows of illegal workers over the next 10 years. OTHERS in Congress say the enforcement at the borders and workplace must be implemented first and then the work permits can be considered. Which do you prefer?***

      26% Work permits first, followed by 10 years of implementing enforcement
      60% Full enforcement first, before considering work permits.
          14% Unsure

- **In "enforcement first," overwhelming voter support for mandating E-Verify to move illegal workers out of jobs.**

The Senate bill promises to mandate E-Verify to finally fulfill the promises of 1986 and 1996 laws to turn off the job magnet for illegal immigration. But it provides work permits to 11 million illegal aliens before any E-Verify requirements. Millions more illegal aliens may be enticed to enter the country by the fact that they can continue to obtain jobs during the five years the bill phases in the mandatory use of E-Verify for all employers. The same is true for current illegal aliens who don't qualify for the amnesty. After the five years, all of those illegal aliens can continue to work in the U.S. if they stay in the same job because there are no provisions that allow—let alone require – employers to check the work authorization of existing employees. Nothing in the bill guarantees the implementation of E-Verify or the denial of benefits to amnestied illegal aliens if E-Verify isn't implemented. Voters have favored full E-Verify for years. But the illegal population has been allowed to grow to 11 million while Congress refused to pass an E-Verify law.

QUESTION: Do you favor or oppose requiring all employers to use E-Verify to electronically ensure that they are hiring only legal workers for U.S. jobs?

      74% Favor
      10% Oppose
          16% Unsure