

Immigration Policy Center (IPC)

...providing factual information about immigration and immigrants in the United States.

April 17, 2008

This Week's Immigration *OnPoint* Highlights

Does the "SAVE Act" Save Anything?

Immigration OnPoint: Facts at Your Fingertips for Frequently Asked Immigration Questions

This month, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) came out with an estimate of the costs of the "Secure America Through Verification and Enforcement Act" ("SAVE Act," HR 4088) that showed that implementing "SAVE" would cost the government billions of dollars in spending and cause the government to lose billions of dollars in tax revenue. This week we highlight two new documents:

[Does the "SAVE Act" Save Anything? The Real Price of "SAVE"](#) (Immigration Policy Center – April 2008) -- Summarizes the CBO cost estimate of the "SAVE Act."

[How Errors in Basic Pilot/E-Verify Databases Impact U.S. Citizens and Lawfully Present Immigrants](#) (National Immigration Law Center – April 2008) -- highlights the impact of a mandatory electronic employment verification system on U.S. citizens.

We have also created [a new subsection](#) devoted to employment verification and Social Security no-match letters -- two hot button issues -- so that you will be able to easily find and access *OnPoint* documents related to those subject areas.

Immigration *OnPoint* is a project coordinated by the Immigration Policy Center to create and maintain an online catalogue of short documents and fact sheets that provide quick answers to commonly asked questions about immigrants and immigration. Immigration is a notoriously complex issue area, and the current immigration debate is filled with myths, misinformation, fear, and emotion, making reasoned decision-making difficult. *OnPoint* documents are meant to confront myths and provide factual information about immigrants and immigration policy.

Documents on the *OnPoint* website are meant to be widely distributed to the public, press, policymakers, and others in order to inject factual information into the immigration debate. Many different organizations have contributed their time and expertise to create these documents. *OnPoint* will continue to grow and be updated throughout the year.

OnPoint documents are organized by topic. Check back frequently to see if any new items have been added!

***OnPoint* subject areas include:**

NEW! [EEVS and SSA No-Match Letters](#) -- What would a mandatory electronic employment verification system look like? What are SSA “No-Match” letters? How would either EEVS or SSA “No-Match” letters impact foreign- and native-born workers, our economy, and government agencies? Includes information on proposals in Congress.

[Immigrants and the U.S. Economy](#) -- What is the impact of immigration on the U.S. economy? This section includes information on immigrants and public benefits usage, tax payments, the U.S. labor market, and more.

[Coming to the U.S. through Legal Channels](#) -- How does the U.S. immigration system operate? What options are available to immigrants looking to come to the U.S. legally? Are immigrants choosing to remain here illegally? This section seeks to demystify U.S. immigration law and policy.

[Immigrants in our Communities](#) -- Who are today's immigrants? How do they impact the communities we live in? This section addresses immigrant integration, examines foreign-born crime rates, and a host of other issues.

[Federal, State, and Local Policy Debates](#) -- What is the federal government doing to address immigration issues? How are state and local governments responding to their specific immigration challenges? This section includes information on legislation being considered in Congress, as well as in state and local legislatures.

[Facts on the Restrictionists](#) -- This section includes information on restrictionist groups and anti-immigrant activities. It also contains information about discrimination and hate crimes targeting immigrant communities.

[Faith-Based Perspectives](#) -- How do different faith communities view immigration? How can we respond to immigration debates from a faith-based perspective? This section provides materials and perspectives from the faith community on immigration and related topics.

[Politics and the Immigration Debate](#) -- How is the immigration debate affecting politics and the elections? This section includes information on the immigrant vote, elections, and the public's view on the immigration debate.

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IPC is a division of the American Immigration Law Foundation. Visit our website at www.immigrationpolicy.org.