Many of us working for responsible immigration and visa controls have felt we've been fighting against the tide because of the refusal of people like Senators Lugar, Craig, Hatch, Kennedy, Schumer and Clinton to listen to their constituents' demands that they recognize the connection between open borders and events like the 9/11 terrorist attacks as well as daily street crime.

These "public servants" continue to encourage illegal immigration despite independent polls showing that 75 to 85% of all US voters want immediate reform.

Now, yet another independent organization has confirmed this fact. A poll conducted by the Pew Research Center for The People & The Press concludes that "About eight-inten Republicans (82%) and somewhat fewer independents and Democrats (76% each) agree with the statement 'We should restrict and control people coming into our country to live more than we do now."

Events of the last months suggest that the message is finally getting through to many of the politicians.

Illinois; Bill to give licenses to illegal aliens derailed, at least for now.

In early November, due to intense pressure from the illegal alien lobby, the Illinois State Senate came close to passing Senate Bill 67 to permit illegals to obtain drivers licenses. The vote was 26 for the bill, 25 against. However, a majority of the full membership of 56 was required for passage and the bill failed. Its sponsor, Miguel delValle planned to call it up for another vote on November 18.

At the request of Sen. Chris Lauzen, a 9/11 family member went to Springfield on November 17 to personally lobby against the bill. This proved successful in changing the minds of several Senators, and lacking the votes to pass it, delValle did not call the bill for a vote.

Hundreds of illegal aliens were bused to the capitol to lobby for passage on Nov. 17 and 18, and according to a capitol police officer, prior to the vote in early November there had been as many as 600 illegals lobbying on one day.

As one observer put it: "200 of them. One 9/11FSA member. They were outnumbered."

DelValle has not given up. He has the support of the Governor Blagojevich. The Governor is a Daly protege from Chicago, a city with a large population of illegals. Both are doing their best to represent the interests of people who have violated our law by illegally entering the country, broken the law by living here and broken the law by taking jobs from citizens and legal residents.

Contact all your Illinois friends and have them call and fax their State Senators. If they don't know who their senator is, they can find out at this url: http://www.legis.state.il.us/senate/

Massachusetts: HB 2292, a bill granting drivers licenses to illegals has been stopped by popular outcry from voters.

Kansas: HB 2039 to give drivers licenses to illegals will be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee in January

As in Illinois, contact any Kansas acquaintances and ask them to oppose drivers licenses for illegal aliens.

Connecticut: 9/11FSA is continuing its work with legislators to pass a model bill prohibiting issuance of drivers licenses to illegals.

Connecticut's DMV does not issue licenses to illegal aliens, however this is due to the commonsense policies of Governor Rowland and the Motor Vehicle Commissioner. We are working to embed the ban in state statute so a new governor cannot unilaterally decide to issue to illegals

North Carolina, Tennessee

Both states issue drivers licenses to illegals. 9/11 FSA is working with legislators in both states to enact laws to ban the practice

In places where 9/11 FSA has not been involved there are also favorable developments:

California

As you know, the legislature passed and ex-Gov. Davis signed SB60 giving licenses to illegals. His approval was one of the reasons cited by many voters in voting to recall him. The movement to put a repeal of SB60 on the ballot will by today have obtained sufficient signatures to put it on the ballot. The effort to obtain signatures continues in order to obtain the required margin of extra signatures to make up for the inevitable invalid ones.

It's important you call all California friends and ask them to sign and return a petition for the repeal of SB 60.

Congress

Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo) has announced he will withdraw his sponsorship of Orin Hatch's "DREAM" Act. This bill would allow public colleges and universities that receive federal aid to offer reduced in-state tuition rates to illegal aliens.

Offering aid to illegals allows people who have broken the law to take up limited space in taxpayer supported colleges. Because there are limited places, this means that there will be citizens who will be unable to obtain higher education because an illegal is taking their spot.

Sen. Campbell's announcement will, it is hoped, be the beginning of a trend. Although 9/11FSA has not spoken to the Senator, our members have discussed the "DREAM" Act with other Senate and House members. We believe that Sen. Campbell will NOT be the last to change his position on this taxpayer's nightmare.

The number of 9/11 family members joining 9/11FSA grows steadily, as does the number of non family members joining as Friends of 9/11FSA. Our group's effectiveness has been increasing. Larger membership will help us even more.

Regards, and Happy Thanksgiving Peter