



America's Voices on Border Security

Father of 9/11 Victim: Reid-Kennedy Bill "Pretends That 9/11 ... Never Happened"

July 27, 2006

Peter Gadiel, the president of 9/11 Families for a Secure America, testified before a House Judiciary Subcommittee hearing today on "Whether the Attempted Implementation of Reid-Kennedy Will Result in an Administrative and National Security Nightmare." Gadiel, whose son was killed on September 11th at the World Trade Center, founded the organization to help ensure that such a tragic attack could not be repeated. Excerpts of his prepared testimony are below:

Peter Gadiel

President of 9/11 Families for a Secure America

"(O)ur members strongly oppose S. 2611 because it would facilitate entry of terrorists into our country."

"We fully agree that S. 2611 would be an administrative and national security nightmare, but words such as "administrative" and "national security" are bloodless bureaucratic terms that fail to adequately describe the devastation amnesty inflicts on individual Americans."

"I will speak in plain English. Passing this amnesty will result in Americans being murdered, and subjected to other horrific crimes committed by the dangerous illegal aliens who would be permitted to legally remain in the United States. We know this to be true because this was the result of the 1986 amnesty. The amnesty proposed in S.2611 will be far larger than that of 1986, and thus will cause crime on a much larger scale. This is a disaster that can easily be avoided if the House sticks to its principles and defeats S.2611."

"In 1986, Senator Edward Kennedy, then-Representative Charles Schumer, and other sponsors of amnesty claimed that 'only' one million illegal aliens would be eligible for amnesty. In fact, due to fraud in administration, and underestimation of the number of illegals in the United States, over three million illegals were actually granted amnesty. "

“In 1986, sponsors of amnesty also assured us there would be safeguards to screen out those who were a danger to our country. Their failure to honor that promise is as clear as their inability to predict eligibility numbers.”

“The 9/11 Commission itself showed us that the 1986 amnesty resulted in dead and injured Americans. It noted that two of the conspirators (Mohammed Salameh and Mahmud Abouhalima, aka Mahmud the Red) in the 1993 attack on the World Trade Center were illegal aliens permitted to remain in the US because of the 1986 amnesty. A third plotter (Mohammed Abouhalima, aka Abo Halima) was permitted to stay in the US for six years until just before the attack when his application under the '86 amnesty was finally denied. Despite the denial he remained in the US to help carry out the plot he had helped plan during the period he was “legal.”

“Mir Aimal Kansi who shot five people outside CIA headquarters was an illegal alien also permitted to remain in the US thanks to the 1986 amnesty law.”

“The 9/11 Commission staff put it in simple terms: “terrorists cannot plan and carry out attacks in the United States if they are unable to enter the country.” Yet, with S.2611 the Senate pretends that 9/11 and thousands of other crimes never happened.”

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