

I've recently written two columns in FSM illustrating that the tide of battle has shifted against those who support illegal immigration and open borders. In October I described how, through their increasingly violent behavior and falsehoods, the members of the Open Borders Lobby (OBL) are revealing that they themselves recognize this fact. In November I wrote of the latest of this year's string major victories over the OBL, New York Governor Eliot Spitzer's humiliating defeat of his scheme to issue drivers licenses to illegal aliens.

Since publication the of those columns there have been additional developments which both confirm the themes of these columns but which simultaneously provide warning that the war is far from over.

The inability of Gov. Spitzer to implement his illegal alien licensing plan was a critical defeat for the OBL. It was a certainty that whichever side won there would be significant impact on other states. If the open borders extremists had succeeded in New York many other states would have fallen, but because national security concerns carried the day, the influence has instead been beneficial.

The pro-illegal immigration extremists understand the importance of what occurred. On November 16, the day after Spitzer surrendered, the Putnam (NY) Journal-News quoted Robin Bikkal, immigration attorney and illegal alien profiteer admitting: "It's very painful. It's a disaster. The thing is, I think we could have been leaders in this whole process. Now I think everybody's going to be just dug into their positions." Translation: 'Had Spitzer succeeded in implementing his scheme, many other states would soon be licensing illegal aliens; instead the movement to expand the licensing of illegals to other states is all but dead.'

Even as Bikkal spoke proof of the accuracy of his prediction was being provided by Oregon's Democratic Gov. Ted Kulongoski. Oregon is one of the seven states that still issue licenses to illegal aliens and the unknown terrorists and violent felons among them. On the very day that Spitzer put up the white flag, but presumably before he did so, Kulongoski issued a statement reaffirming his longstanding support for licensing illegals, because he said 'it saves lives if they go through the licensing process.' But *the very next day*, Mr. Kulongoski issued an executive order to "dramatically *tighten*" [italics added] restrictions on Oregon driver's licenses and make Oregon "a de facto legal presence state." The reason, said his spokeswoman was because "[t]here is an increasing concern, based on ongoing investigations, that Oregon is becoming a safe haven' for unlawfully obtaining identification."

There can be only two possible explanations for Gov. Kulongoski's astonishing, but welcome, reversal. Either: 1. Gov. Kulongoski was completely ignorant of the "concern based on ongoing investigations" on November 15 and within the space of one day learned of the threat reversed course based on this new knowledge and issued an executive order or: 2. What happened to Eliot Spitzer persuaded Mr. Kulongoski to switch sides for political reasons.

Common sense and immigration lawyer Bikkal's comment provide confirmation that it wasn't newly discovered concern for America's safety that motivated Oregon's governor; it was newly discovered concern for his own political future.

Remember too, that earlier this year both Tennessee and North Carolina ended their practice of licensing illegals because of the result of had been fraud, corruption and highway deaths; in the Illinois Legislature, a bill to give "driving certificates" to illegals has, so far, been stopped; and Representative Vito Fossella of New York City has introduced legislation in Congress to prohibit issuance of licenses to illegals anywhere in the United States. Taken together, we see that on the drivers license front the illegal alien lobby has taken a severe beating. Drivers licenses were just one aspect of the OBL's problems. Also defeated were the Bush-Kennedy Comprehensive Immigration bill and the so-called "Dream Act" both of which would have given amnesty to millions of illegals and would give them in-state college tuition rates. Arizona and Oklahoma are implementing strong anti-illegal immigration measures statewide. Over 1500 anti-illegal immigration bills have been introduced in legislatures in fifty states, with passage of almost 250 in 46 states.

Despite the favorable trend, the madness in support of illegal immigration continues to express itself and serves to warn us of the fanaticism of the OBL and the continuing threat. Consider for example a bill which Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee has introduced in the Congress. That bill, H.R. 750, includes an amnesty for millions illegals which is far broader than previous ones. She would allow illegal aliens who have been *convicted of crimes of violence and sentenced to up to five years in prison* to apply for amnesty (past amnesties have limited eligibility to criminals who have been sentenced 'only' up to one year's imprisonment). Her bill would specifically allow states to prohibit state and local police from cooperating with federal government enforce of immigration law. It would also repeal the current provision in federal law (Section 287g) which allows the Attorney General to enter into agreements with states and localities which deputizes their police to enforce immigration law.

Jackson Lee's bill is nothing less than a 'Violent Illegal Alien Criminal Empowerment Act' and though it is unlikely to get anywhere in the Congress, it does illustrate three facts about illegal alien lobbyists: they do not recognize any moral obligation to safeguard the welfare of our country or its citizens; they are extremists; and they are not giving up.

My October column addressed another indicator of our success over the OBL: that their increasingly vicious and dishonest rhetoric indicates a realization that their victory is no longer assured. Since then, they have continued to provide us to even more of this.

For example, in November a group calling itself "Christians for Comprehensive Immigration Reform" issued a pronouncement chock full hateful language which, quite ironically, denounced anyone who opposes illegal immigration of being "deeply rooted in hate." Using distortions, lies, and quotes out of context, this group alleges that those who oppose *illegal*

immigration are “virulently anti-immigrant and anti-Hispanic,” “xenophobes,” “purveyors of hate,” fear mongers, un-Christian. We are accused of being linked with and no different from Ku Klux Klansmen and neo-Nazis.

It is apparent that for these “Christians” the technique of arousing hatred for we who disagree with them, by lying about the facts and smearing our characters are acceptable means of elevating the tone of the debate and showing Christian tolerance for different opinions.

It is not worth analyzing in depth a document which, while ostensibly issued for the purpose of promoting peace and love, itself relies on the most hateful techniques of vicious propagandists. However, it is worth noting that much of the “proof” cited in the document is drawn from sources such as The National Council of La Raza (its motto: “Inside the race, everything; outside the race, nothing); open borders profiteer Frank Sharry of the National Immigration Forum; and others who utilize lists of “hate groups” to solicit funds.

It should also be noted that “Christians for Comprehensive Immigration” describes itself as being in partnership with numerous far left, pro-illegal alien lobby groups including: Move On, Mother Jones, Center for American Progress, Working Assets, United for a Fair Economy and others of that ilk.

In short, Christians for Comprehensive Immigration Reform is nothing more than one more element of the illegal alien lobby. As such it is gratifying to see that they confirm, via their vitriolic language, that their cause is losing.

So, let those of us who understand the very real dangers of unsecured borders and unrestricted illegal immigration enjoy our victories. Let us enjoy the spectacle of our opponents resorting to increasingly vicious rhetoric and behavior as their claims are ever more widely rejected by the American people. But, let us also not ignore that a fanaticism confirmed by the events of November will not soon be stopped.

We can celebrate our victories but cannot afford to stop fighting.