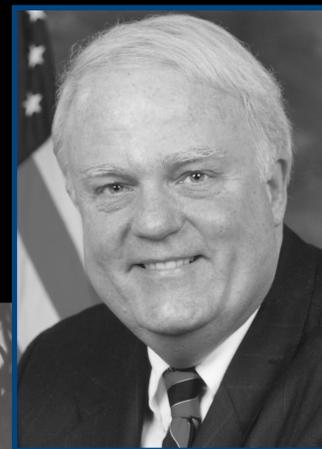


Congressman **Jim Sensenbrenner**

# News From Congress

Number 175 – July 2007



## Immigration Bill is No Bargain

Last year, the US Senate introduced a few immigration proposals that in my opinion, and those of a vast majority of the American public, were not comprehensive, and doomed to repeat the mistakes of Congresses past. Fast forwarding to this year, the White House and Senate recently reached an agreement over an immigration proposal that has been heralded as a “grand bargain.” A poorer description for this agreement, which was scuttled in the Senate because of a lack of support after several days’ debate, could not have been selected.

While the Senate proposal is great for the illegal immigrants who would be granted amnesty under this bill, the immigration compromise is anything but a good deal for the American people, who have not been shy about making their views clear on this agreement.

The Senate’s immigration bill would be terrible for our country. This proposal is nothing but a massive amnesty bill that provides expedited visas for millions of illegal immigrants. Amnesty will encourage future illegal immigration by retroactively rewarding illegal behavior and allowing those who have broken the law to receive billions in public benefits. This would encumber our current welfare system at every level of government, increase taxes for all Americans, and cut the Social Security trust fund of billions of dollars needed to pay for the retirement of US citizens.

You have probably heard Senators lauding the “temporary” Z Visa, which permits undocumented workers, also known as illegal immigrants, to come out of the shadows. However, they neglect to mention that it can be renewed every four years until the visa holder dies. Moreover, Z visa holders are not required to pay back taxes owed for the time they worked illegally in the United States.

We should not reward lawbreakers - that is the wrong message to send to the rest of the world. That message was

broadcast in 1986, the last time Congress passed a large immigration bill. The consequences of that bill are between 12 and 20 million illegal immigrants who currently reside in the US. Congress must not make the same mistake again.

I am committed to passing a fair immigration law that works. The Senate bill does not. I have always maintained that an immigration bill needs to secure our borders, eliminate the job magnet that brings illegal immigrants into our country, and hold those here illegally accountable for their actions. We must address the national security threat posed by terrorists and other vicious criminals who cross our porous borders by mandating the construction of a fence along the most high-traffic border areas, and incorporating state-of-the-art surveillance technology to ensure comprehensive coverage. We also need provisions to establish a nationwide employment verification program, which will discourage employers from hiring illegal workers. We cannot have a successful guest worker program until the federal government first enforces our immigration laws and secures our nation’s borders. Finally, a temporary guest worker program must be truly temporary.

In my view, the “grand bargain” is a losing bargain, and the only hope to fix it is by starting anew, in the House of Representatives, with a clean slate. We have an opportunity here to fix something that affects each and every one of us. We should not squander this, because who knows when we will next have the chance to put this issue on the national forefront.

### *Reminder...*

**Passport Article**

*Page 2*

**Questionnaire**

*Page 3*

**Office Hours &**

**Town Hall Meetings**

*Back page*



# QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE CARD

## Respondent #1

1.  a  b  c  d
2.  a  b
3.  Yes  No
4.  Yes  No
5.  Yes  No
6.  a  b
7.  a  b  c  d  e
8.  a  b  c
9.  a  b  c  d  e
10.  Yes  No
11.  Yes  No
12.  Yes  No
13.  Yes  No
14.  Yes  No
15.  a  b  c  d
16.  Yes  No
17.  a  b  c  d  e

## Respondent #2

1.  a  b  c  d
2.  a  b
3.  Yes  No
4.  Yes  No
5.  Yes  No
6.  a  b
7.  a  b  c  d  e
8.  a  b  c
9.  a  b  c  d  e
10.  Yes  No
11.  Yes  No
12.  Yes  No
13.  Yes  No
14.  Yes  No
15.  a  b  c  d
16.  Yes  No
17.  a  b  c  d  e

CUT ALONG THE LINE, PLACE IN AN ENVELOPE, STAMP, AND MAIL TO:  
Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner, 2449 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515

## Applying for a US Passport?

Changes to federal law implemented in January 2007 have resulted in a significant increase in passport applications at the US Passport Agency. In response to the concerns of many of my constituents about the difficulties in obtaining US Passports these past few months, I recently spoke directly with the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs. In addition, I reiterated these problems with the growing backlog of passport applications in a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. I made Secretary Rice aware of my specific concerns with the poor communication evident between the US Passport Agency and the acceptance agents poised at our post offices. Time and time again, my constituents were advised by the acceptance agents that passports would be completed within an 8-10 week timeframe, thus eliminating the need to "expedite" the applications. Obviously, this was very bad advice that has been a crucial factor in the resulting chaos.

In an effort to ease the backlog of passport applications, effective June 8, 2007, the US Departments of State and Homeland Security have suspended the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) mandated by Congress requiring passports for anyone traveling by air to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda upon entering/re-entering the United States. This means that citizens traveling to those locations **who have applied but not yet received passports**, can nevertheless temporarily enter and depart from the United States by air with a government issued photo identification and Department of State official proof of application for a passport. US citizens with pending passport applications can obtain proof of application at the Department of State website at: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov). This suspension of the rule will be in effect until September 30, 2007.

There is a footnote to this temporary suspension of the passport requirement for travel by air to certain countries. It is important for constituents to review the foreign entry requirements of the country they are visiting, as in many cases the host country may require proof of citizenship. Information concerning foreign entry requirements can be accessed at the Department of State website by typing "foreign entry requirements" in the search field.

As I expressed to Secretary Rice, in the age of terrorism, it is more important than ever that passport applications are properly vetted to ensure the safety of American citizens. I believe with proper allocation of resources and oversight, the backlog can be reduced without compromising our national security. I am hopeful the Departments of State and Homeland Security move to resolve quickly the issue of passport backlog so that we can permanently adopt the important stipulations of the WHTI in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 that strengthen border security.

Rest assured, I will continue to monitor this situation and will concentrate my efforts on a process that will ease the backlog of passport applications while remaining focused on our nation's security. I strongly encourage folks in need of a passport to apply for one as soon as they are aware of their travel plans. For assistance with the US Passport Agency, contact my District Office in Brookfield. For your reference, the National Passport Information Center can be contacted directly at (877) 487-2778.



United States  
America

# 2007 Annual Questionnaire

The 110th Congress is involved with many issues vital to you, your family, and the nation. Please take a few minutes to complete this year's questionnaire. All questions have a YES or NO answer unless otherwise indicated. Please mark your answer by placing an "X" in the space provided. In some cases, a YES or NO answer may seem oversimplified, but I am often left with that same choice when voting on complex legislation on the House floor. Please let me know what matters to you. Fill out the response card, and mail it to my Washington office. Thank you for your time.

(1) How should the ever-growing federal deficit be managed?

- (a) Increase taxes
- (b) Spend less
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Do nothing - leave it be

(2) The current leadership of the House of Representatives wants to allow the tax relief efforts of 2001 and 2003 to expire, even though they have shown to increase revenue and stimulate the economy. Should relief from taxes like the child tax credit, estate tax, and marriage penalty be rescinded or made permanent?

- (a) Rescinded
- (b) Made Permanent

(3) Currently, 41% of the cost of beer is made up of taxes. Since 1991, the federal excise tax on beer has doubled. Do you think this tax should be reduced?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(4) Do you support giving illegal immigrants amnesty?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(5) Do you believe the government should promote more choices in health care coverage by providing tax incentives to employees and businesses?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(6) Do you believe that the current law that bars the re-importation of pharmaceuticals into the United States should be lifted so seniors may obtain cheaper drugs?

- (a) Yes, seniors should be able to purchase prescription drugs at world-market prices
- (b) No, Congress should uphold this law unless the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that re-importation can be done safely

(7) What is the greatest threat to the US today?

- (a) Economic instability
- (b) Domestic terrorism
- (c) Global warming
- (d) Illegal immigration
- (e) Other

(8) How much confidence do you have in the ability of the US government to prevent further terrorist attacks against Americans in this country?

- (a) Much Confidence
- (b) Some Confidence
- (c) No Confidence

(9) Studies have shown that three-quarters of new jobs in the US are created by small businesses. What course of action should Congress take to support small businesses and create more jobs?

- (a) Allow small businesses to pool their resources to provide affordable healthcare for employees
- (b) Provide further tax relief
- (c) Do away with frivolous lawsuits
- (d) Reduce regulations on small businesses
- (e) All of the above

(10) Do you believe the US should rescind favorable trade status to the People's Republic of China?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(11) Should union members have the freedom to choose whether their union dues are used for political purposes?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(12) Nuclear power plants produce no controlled air pollutants, or greenhouse gases, which in turn keep the air cleaner. Many Americans have called for an expansion of nuclear power. Do you think the US should increase its nuclear power supply?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(13) Our nation's oil refining capacity has been stagnant for over 30 years. In light of high gas prices and our need to produce more oil inside the US, do you believe it is important we focus on the construction of new refineries?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(14) Do you believe it is the responsibility of the US government to dictate to automakers the fuel efficiency of the cars they manufacture?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(15) Who should make the most decisions when it comes to spending taxpayer money for education?

- (a) Wisconsin State Government
- (b) US Department of Education
- (c) US Congress
- (d) Local school boards, parents and administrators

(16) Should illegal aliens be eligible for in-state college tuition?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(17) Which Wisconsin county do you live in?

- (a) Jefferson County
- (b) Milwaukee County
- (c) Ozaukee County
- (d) Washington County
- (e) Waukesha County

# You're Invited...

I host scores of Town Hall Meetings and Office Hours to provide you the chance to express your views on the issues before Congress or to help you with problems you may be experiencing in dealing with a federal agency. This newsletter includes my schedule of meetings for the next several weeks, and I invite you to attend one or more of them. Whether you need help or not, I hope you'll stop by to say hello and introduce yourself. Please contact my District office if you require special accommodations to attend.

## Office Hours

### Monday, July 2nd

8:00am . . . . . Helenville Fire Hall  
8:45am . . . . . Sullivan Village Hall  
9:30am . . . . . Palmyra Village Hall  
10:30am . . . . . Dousman Village Hall  
11:15am . . . . . Genesee Town Hall  
12:00pm . . . . . Wales Village Hall  
1:30pm . . . . . Nashotah Village Hall  
2:15pm . . . . . Merton Town Hall  
3:00pm . . . . . Merton Village Hall

### Tuesday, July 3rd

8:30am . . . . . Kewaskum Village Hall  
9:30am . . . . . Addison Town Hall  
10:15am . . . . . Jackson Village Hall  
11:15am . . . . . Sussex Village Hall  
12:45pm . . . . . Lannon Village Hall  
1:30pm . . . . . Butler Village Hall

### Friday, July 6th

9:00am . . . . . Bayside Village Hall  
9:45am . . . . . Fox Point Village Hall  
10:30am . . . . . River Hills Village Hall  
11:30am . . . . . Saukville Village Hall  
1:15pm . . . . . Belgium Village Hall  
2:00pm . . . . . Fredonia Village Hall  
2:45pm . . . . . Newburg Village Hall

## Town Hall Meetings

### Sunday, July 8th

7:00pm Hartford City Hall

### Sunday, July 15th

7:00pm Elm Grove Village Hall

### Sunday, July 29th

7:00pm Germantown Village Hall

### Saturday, September 8th

9:00am Cedarburg Police Department

### Sunday, September 9th

7:00pm Delafield Town Hall

### Saturday, September 22nd

9:00am Pewaukee City Hall

### Sunday, September 23rd

7:00pm Whitefish Bay Village Hall

### Saturday, September 29th

9:00am West Allis Public Library  
1:00pm Glendale/North Shore Library

### Sunday, September 30th

7:00pm West Bend City Hall

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### To write about issues or request publications, contact me at:

2449 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515-4905  
TEL: (202) 225-5101

### To get help with federal agencies, contact me at:

120 Bishops Way, #154, Brookfield, WI 53005-6294  
TEL: (262) 784-1111

Outside Metro Calling Area: **(800) 242-1119**

E-Mail: <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov/contactform> Website: <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov>

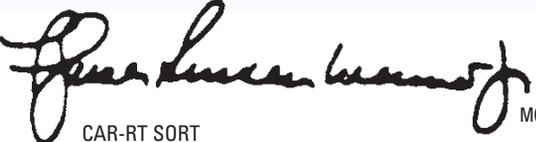
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-4905

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

It is provided as a service to 5th Congressional District constituents.



CAR-RT SORT MC

## Postal Patron-Local

5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Wisconsin

