



P.O. Box 371536
Denver, CO 80237
(P) 303-335-0180

info@garboforcolorado.com
www.garboforcolorado.com
(F) 303-954-7140

CAMPAIGN PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DENVER, CO, MAY 19, 2010: With the passing of new immigration legislation in Arizona, now is a good time to reflect on how this important issue impacts our community in Colorado. SB1070 provides authority for law enforcement to ask for proof of citizenship when reasonable suspicion exists. The Arizona State Legislature clearly wrote this bill to discourage and deter the unlawful entry, presence, and economic activity of people who are in the State of Arizona unlawfully. The intent of this legislation is to remove a very real and very dangerous criminal threat from our community and our country.

Many are calling the measure racist and short-sighted. However, categorically referring to this piece of legislation as being racially motivated is truly short-sighted and detracts from the heart of the issue: national security. Law enforcement halted over \$2 million worth of marijuana from entering this country immediately following the passing of SB1070, and summarily dismissing this achievement as racially motivated is disingenuous. On the contrary, this outstanding success demands that we take a closer look at border security enforcement around the country.

My experience working in law enforcement has shown me the real dangers of poorly enforced immigration laws. Many immigration and immigration-related crimes go unnoticed by our national media every day. I have witnessed cases involving human trafficking and the exploitative industry it promotes. Other escalating problems are the staggering amount of illegal drugs entering our country and the resulting narco-terrorism erupting along our borders. These problems start at our national borders but ultimately make their way into our local neighborhoods and impact our communities. This is why we must work together to resolve these issues by enforcing our immigration laws.

In the past couple of weeks, our nation has seen criminals of foreign origin and influence assault our homeland. These criminals have shot our law enforcement officers and have attempted to car bomb one of our most densely populated cities. Enforcing our immigration laws has nothing to do with discrimination. This is about protecting Americans of all races to ensure that we have an opportunity for a full life of prosperity and freedom. In a nation where criminals win, we all lose.

That is why, when elected, I will oppose any so-called "sanctuary" immigration policies that violate our state or federal laws and call on your support to defend our great state.

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