

**JACK REED**

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June 8, 2009

Mr. Joe Scagliarino  
37 Harrison Avenue  
Newport, RI 02840

Dear Mr. Scagliarino:

Knowing of your interest in immigration, I write to update you on recent developments.

Like you, I believe immigration is an important issue that merits Congress' immediate attention. I also support the implementation of an effective and efficient worker-verification program that incorporates safeguards against error and abuse. S. 1639, the comprehensive immigration reform bill considered last Congress by the Senate, included such a program. Unfortunately, the bipartisan effort to consider practical immigration reform was twice blocked by a minority of Senators, and regrettably removed from further consideration. The failure to reach an agreement on this legislation has left our country subject to an unacceptable status quo.

Although we need an enforceable and practical reworking of our immigration laws, in the interim, I have supported additional funding to increase border security, including \$3 billion in a bill vetoed by President Bush and \$2.7 billion in legislation he signed into law. The Bush Administration failed to effectively enforce current law; indeed, over the past eight years the number of those detained for unlawfully crossing the border declined by 25%. I believe the Obama Administration must do a better job of enforcement, both in terms of securing the border and taking action against employers hiring undocumented workers. On March 11, 2009, President Obama signed into law legislation extending the e-verify program through September 30, 2009.

You may be interested to learn that Senate Majority Leader Reid has recently said that a debate on comprehensive immigration reform may occur before the end of the year. I hope that this will provide the necessary opportunity to have a comprehensive, enforceable, and balanced review of our immigration laws.

Again, thank you for contacting me, and please do not hesitate to write, call, or visit my website, [www.reed.senate.gov](http://www.reed.senate.gov), in the future for information regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Reed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jack" and last name "Reed" clearly distinguishable.

Jack Reed  
United States Senator