

44TH DISTRICT
JOHN C. RAFFERTY, JR.

SENATE BOX 203044
20 EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3044
(717) 787-1398
FAX (717) 783-4587

COLLEGEVILLE PROFESSIONAL CENTER
3770 RIDGE PIKE, SUITE 5
COLLEGEVILLE, PA 19426
(610) 831-8830
FAX (610) 831-8837

THE SHOPPES AT PUGHTOWN
2325 POTTSTOWN PIKE
POTTSTOWN, PA 19465
(610) 469-8390
FAX (610) 469-8394

INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS:
jrafferty@pasen.gov

WEBSITE:
www.senatorrafferty.com



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TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr. 

DATE: November 22, 2010

RE: Co-sponsorship – Illegal Immigration Reform, Basic Pilot Program (#33)

I will re-introduce legislation, SB744, regarding the registration of business entities and their participation in the Department of Homeland Security's Basic Pilot Program. The United States has established and maintains a national program for the electronic verification of work authorization, the Basic Pilot Program, which enables employers to promptly and accurately verify the employment eligibility of all job applicants.

My legislation will require business entities to provide the Commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions with an affidavit that the business entity does not knowingly employ any person who is an unauthorized alien and will also require a business entity to provide documentation that the business has enrolled in the Basic Pilot Program.. These two actions would have to be completed in order for the contractor or business entity to obtain any license or permit within a particular municipality. This legislation also provides for penalties associated with violations related to the employment of illegal aliens and assigns the PA Secretary of State to the enforcement of the provisions within this legislation.

This legislation requires all government entities to be enrolled in and actively participating in the Basic Pilot Program. Furthermore, this legislation permits political subdivisions of this Commonwealth to enact ordinances prohibiting the employment of unauthorized aliens. It also permits these political subdivisions to deny a registration to an employer who employs unauthorized aliens, and allows these governments to enact ordinances restricting the rental of housing to illegal aliens.

If you have any questions or wish to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Cecilia Boyer at cboyer@pasen.gov or call 787-1398.