



AILA recommends VOTE NO on Amendment 1959, SECURE and SUCCEED Act of 2018

Contact: Greg Chen, gchen@aila.org

AILA recommends that Senators vote NO on Amendment 1959, the SECURE and SUCCEED Act. The SECURE and SUCCEED Act is an anti-immigrant wish list that mirrors the White House's destructive "Immigration Principles" by authorizing an astronomical increase in funding for President Trump's border wall and deportation machine and proposing devastating cuts to the legal immigration system in exchange for legalizing the status of certain Dreamers.

If enacted, the Act would waste billions of taxpayer dollars on unnecessary and operationally ineffective border infrastructure that will do next to nothing to improve our national security, inflict terrible damage to our economy by eliminating workers who are critical to our economic growth, severely undermine the due process for thousands of people, and result in the deportation of thousands of immigrants, including many Dreamers and their families.

Amendment 1959 would waste billions of taxpayer dollars on unnecessary and operationally ineffective border infrastructure

- Amendment 1959 authorizes a \$25 billion-dollar fund for the border wall, technology and infrastructure, and other expansions of border and interior enforcement, a costly and wasteful use of U.S. taxpayer money that would do next to nothing to improve our national security. Extensive physical barriers and border security technologies already exist at our southern border and recent apprehension numbers have been at the lowest point when compared to the last four decades.

Amendment 1959 would gut our legal immigration system, devastating our economy

- Amendment 1959 would eviscerate the family-based immigration system by eliminating all family-based legal immigration categories, except for spouses and children under the age of 18 of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, blocking U.S. citizens from reunifying with their adult children, parents, and siblings and prohibiting lawful permanent residents (LPRs) from reunifying with their adult unmarried children.
- Amendment 1959 would terminate the Diversity Visa Immigrant Program, disproportionately excluding immigrants from Latin America, Africa, and Asia who benefit from the program.
- By slashing legal immigration, Amendment 1959 would devastate the U.S. economy by eliminating an essential labor force critical to our economic growth.

Amendment 1959 would severely undermine due process for thousands of people

- Amendment 1959 would allow DHS to summarily deport millions of people who came to the U.S. on a valid visa for business or tourism, depriving them of their right to a fair day in court.
- Amendment 1959 would lower due process standards for unaccompanied children, potentially turning vulnerable children who are victimized by trafficking and gang violence back to the violence and trauma they escaped.

Amendment 1959 would tear apart families, dramatically increase detention costs, and undermine public safety

- Amendment 1959 would authorize the hiring of new Border Patrol agents and ICE officers that would further increase the Administration's power to detain and deport Dreamers, their families and people who have lived in this country for years, including children in need of medical care, teachers, Dreamers, and victims of domestic violence. The bill calls for an active duty presence of 26,370 Border Patrol agents, and an increase of 8,500 ICE agents which would more than double the number of interior agents authorized to 16,500.
- Amendment 1959 would authorize the massive expansion of mandatory detention for every individual arriving at the U.S. border, including asylum seekers, driving those seeking humanitarian protection back into harms way and skyrocketing detention costs, which already costs U.S. taxpayers \$2 billion each year.
- Amendment 1959 would undermine public safety by attempting to force so-called "sanctuary cities" to follow unconstitutional policies or risk losing vital federal funding for local law enforcement that would make communities safer.