

Amnesty Is Not Infrastructure

THE ISSUE

Senate Democrats have said that a bipartisan infrastructure deal is a condition for passing a reconciliation bill that includes mass amnesty. "We have to have total agreement on both before we move either," <u>Majority Leader Chuck</u> <u>Schumer (NY) declared</u>. "[I]f a bipartisan infrastructure bill falls apart, everything could fall apart," <u>said Joe Manchin (WV)</u>.

House Democrats, on the other hand, say that reconciliation must happen before they will move a bipartisan infrastructure bill. As <u>Speaker</u> <u>Nancy Pelosi</u> (CA) said: "We will not take up the infrastructure bill until the Senate passes the reconciliation measure." With amnesty and infrastructure inextricably linked, the Senate should not proceed with the infrastructure bill.

By passing a bipartisan infrastructure bill, the prospects of successful passage of the reconciliation bill, which only requires a simple majority vote, increase drastically. Agreeing to this wasteful bill removes leverage for reconciliation negotiations and deducts more than a trillion dollars in costs from the reconciliation bill, thereby making it easier to pass.

RADICAL AND DANGEROUS: THE U.S. CITIZENSHIP ACT

Congress should be doing everything in its power to stop this historic Biden border crisis, not making it worse by offering a reward for illegal border crossing.

The nation is in the midst of the purposefully created and worsening <u>Biden border crisis</u>. Already this year, more than one million illegal aliens have been apprehended, many of whom have been released into the country under unlawful "catch and release" policies. Untold more have been able to evade apprehension while the Border Patrol is devoting resources to processing and transporting illegal aliens into the interior of the country.

The <u>White House</u> has called on Congress to include the <u>U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021</u>, the most radical immigration bill ever introduced, in a reconciliation package.

The act would <u>grant amnesty</u> to virtually every illegal alien in the country, estimates of which range from 11 million to 22 million. It also includes measures that encourage asylum fraud, increase all types of legal immigration, and erase the line between illegal and legal immigration.

The act is primarily an electoral strategy for leftists who believe that it will result in more favorable voter demographics to quickly flip red states to blue states.

NO FOCUS ON ACTUAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Even absent the planned radical transformations, the "infrastructure" bill is bad policy that is not focused on actual infrastructure.

Yet, before the text of the bill has even been released, <u>17 Republican Senators have already</u> <u>agreed</u> to advance the \$1.2 trillion bill.

Disclosed parameters of the legislation demonstrate that it is an <u>infrastructure-in-</u> <u>name-only</u> package packed with Amtrak earmarks, leftist climate-change funding, and subsidies for electric vehicles.

Wasteful spending of this magnitude will only make recent inflation spikes worse.

Congress should pump the brakes on the wasteful infrastructure package that will set the stage for amnesty and put an end to the historic Biden border crisis.

This paper, in its entirety, can be found at http://report.heritage.org/fs216

The Heritage Foundation | 214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE | Washington, DC 20002 | (202) 546-4400 | heritage.org

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