

HENRY E. BROWN, JR.  
1ST DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA  
COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4001

CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS:  
CONGRESSIONAL COASTAL CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL SHELLFISH CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS OF CANADA  
CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL PORT SECURITY CAUCUS  
[HTTP://BROWN.HOUSE.GOV](http://brown.house.gov)

March 11, 2010

Mr. Theodore A. Sejda

Dear Mr. Sejda:

Thank you for contacting me about illegal immigration and its affect on the American unemployment rate. I appreciate having the benefit of your views.

Over the past year our national unemployment has risen to levels not seen in more than a quarter century. Unfortunately, during this slide I have repeatedly heard from my constituents that their former jobs are going to illegal immigrants.

Illegal immigration has caused tremendous stress in countless aspects of our society, and has depleted employment opportunities from American citizens who want to work. In order to effectively address illegal immigration and the national security threats associated with a porous border, I believe in comprehensive reform that not only secures the border, but removes many of the benefits that illegal immigrants are afforded. It is imperative that federal, state and local officials are given the tools to enforce existing laws, and I am working to make permanent the E-Verify program.

As an additional measure during the economic down turn, H.R. 2305, the *Security and Fairness Enhancement (SAFE) for America Act*, has been introduced. This legislation would eliminate the visa lottery program, which allows 50,000 aliens to receive a visa and become legal permanent residents though a "lottery." I am a proponent of lawful immigration and recognize that the United States has long been known as the great melting pot. However, our immigration policy should be based primarily on our national needs, security and economics and not in part on an arbitrary system, lacking even cursory checks.

During my time in Congress, I have firmly supported numerous measures to address this issue of illegal immigration. I have fought to build a fence along our southern border, called for making English our official language, and support ending the practice of birthright citizenship. As we continue to discuss immigration-related measures in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, rest assured that I will keep your thoughts and concerns in mind.

I am honored to serve you in Congress and I look forward to hearing from you on other matters of interest or concern.

Sincerely,



Henry E. Brown, Jr.  
Member of Congress