



Dear Friends,

20 days, 20 ideas, 20 minutes, \$20: Makeover

Here are Ideas #9, 10, 11, 12, 13 in our campaign to give voters actual solutions to our current challenges and to provide **20 steps to a Total Makeover of Our Democracy.**

We need you as partners in this journey to create a healthy, vibrant and thriving democracy. [If you like the idea, contribute \\$20.](#)

My opponents are in the kowtowing business--kowtowing to party establishment, big money, PAC, and K Street. **I am in the solutions business.** The solutions business for Main Street's small businesses--your business.

Immigration reform is crucial for our economy and our security.

I am the only candidate who is willing to tell the whole truth on immigration. I am the candidate who has concrete and real ideas for true reform and who has the expertise to back it up. My reform is not the big money, big corporate giveaway that is the "gang of eight" bill. My reform encompasses what is **good for our Nation's safety and security while keeping alive the promise of immigration that is the fundamental heritage of our country.**

My grandparents and great grandparents came from Sicily and Italy with little more than the shirts on their backs, yet they successfully pursued and realized their American Dreams. Their children, my parents, became a doctor and a nurse and built their medical practice from nothing and raised six children, all of whom became successful in their fields.

My inlaws fled Communist China and built their laundry from next to nothing and sent all seven of their children to college. **I am grateful every single day that my family and my husband's family immigrated to America,** and I love that in my job, immigration, **I get to help people achieve their American Dreams every single day.**

Yet, the U.S. government is not honoring our rich history as a nation of immigrants and is not ensuring the security of borders and the sovereignty of our laws. We must do all three if we are to truly fix and reform our immigration system. Both parties want votes and cheap labor and they are willing to sell us out to the highest bidder, once again making a farce of immigration reform. Here is what real reform would look like:

1. **Implement Serious Fines on Employers Violating the Law.**
2. **Increase Border and Port Security.**
3. **Path to Legalization, Not Citizenship.**
4. **Repeal the 3 and 10 Year Bars to Re-Entry. Replace it with a 2-4 Year Bar.**
5. **Create an Essential Worker Visa similar to the current seasonal worker visa.**

With these next 5 emails, I will lay out my plan for real reform.

The plan continues with **Ideas #11, 12 and 13: Earned Legalization, Repeal & Replace 10-year bar, Create Real Essential Worker Visa.**

Idea #11, Earned Legalization. Right now, everyone talks about a path to citizenship, but from the beginning, I have always insisted that it should be a path to legalization. Because undocumented immigrants did break a law by crossing the border without inspection or by overstaying their visas, a corollary penalty must be a part of any legalization plan.

My plan calls for earned legalization but takes citizenship off the table for undocumented immigrants who choose not to go back to their home countries for processing. In exchange for America's forgiveness of the transgression, and the opportunity to earn the tremendous benefit of a green card, undocumented immigrants will have to forego a direct path to citizenship.

My plan recognizes that we are a nation of laws: allowing citizenship undercuts our sovereign laws. That it basically sends a message that America is not serious about the integrity of our borders and it will do nothing to stop future illegal immigration. No one has offered a serious plan that both maintains our sovereign laws and offers a path to undocumented immigrants willing to earn a legal status.

We must send a clear message that we are NOT going to do this again--legalization must include a long-term plan to stop illegal border crossings and overstays. Together with harsh penalties enforced against exploiting employers, my ideas here will do just that.

A path to legalization will include the requirement that applicants go to the end of line behind all current applicants for a green card, a penalty fee, the payment of any back taxes, and the requirement to pass an English test. This process could take 15 years--during this period, applicants will be allowed to stay in the U.S. in a temporary legal status.

Undocumented immigrants are not barred from citizenship; they have a choice:

Option 1. The U.S. Government allows them to stay here and obtain legal status. They get the benefit of legalization without going back to their home country, but for this incredible benefit, they must give up something and have a correlating penalty for their violation of the immigration law--they cannot become citizens if they choose this path.

Option 2: They return to their home countries and comply with a 2-4 year bar, and proceed through the green card process from there. With this option, they will be eligible to apply for citizenship.

Idea #12, Repeal & Replace the 10-year Bar: Repeal the 10-year bar and replace it with a 2-4 year bar. Right now, if someone has been undocumented for more than one year in the U.S. and they leave, they trigger the 10-year bar: they cannot come back to the U.S. for 10 years. Congress passed this 10-year bar thinking the harsh penalty would stop people from overstaying their visas and would stop illegal border crossings.

The joke of that bill was not a laughing matter for our country. As is so often the case with a Congress that has no idea how things work in the real world, the law had the opposite effect: it caused people to stay in the U.S. because they knew if they left, they would essentially never be able to come back. Then, their families came here, often illegally, because they knew it was the only way to be together. This bar is a major contributing factor to the rise in the undocumented population in the last 18 years.

Replace this bar with a 2-4 year bar. That will give people who want to become citizens a realistic path to returning to

the U.S.

Idea #13, Create a Real Essential Worker Visa: Once we address the current undocumented population, we must make sure we are not facing the same problem 20 years from now. How do we do that? We Create a Real Essential Worker Visa (CREW) similar to current seasonal worker visa. We must have a two-pronged approach for future immigration: I've already proposed the penalty prong of Fines for Exploiting Employers (FEE). Now we pair it with the prevention prong--a legal category for future workers. CREW visa requirements will be:

- Employers must advertise for U.S. workers and prove they cannot find such workers.
- Employers must pay prevailing standard wages.
- Criminal prosecution and high penalties for any employer who violates the law.
- The Key distinction between a Real Essential Worker and a Current Seasonal worker would be that the employer could sponsor the Essential worker for a green card while the essential worker is working in the U.S.

This program will address the problem of undocumented immigration because it will provide a legal avenue for immigrants while at the same time protecting the U.S. workforce.

Congress could easily replace the current chaos that is our immigration system with a Real Plan that is a mix of forgiveness, penalties, and a blueprint for a sane, secure and workable system by implementing my Ideas #11, 12, and 13.

With my plan, we will have Real Immigration Reform that respects our laws, our borders, and our immigrants.

DeFranco Delivers Ideas #11, 12, 13: Earned Legalization, Repeal & Replace 10-year bar, Create Real Essential Worker Visa.

Any person in the real world should see that Congress, if it had the courage to take on special interests, then could propose Real Immigration Reform that makes safety and sovereignty a priority. Allowing porous borders so that monopolies can exploit immigrant labor risks the safety and economic stability of every American. It is illogical, a set up for disaster, bad for the American people and bad for the economy. Why hasn't my opponent done something about it?

My Ideas #11, 12, and 13 are solutions that are not only fair and just but will also have a tremendously positive impact on jobs and our economy by making sound and fair business practices a priority. A blueprint for a workable system that treats both American workers and immigrants fairly and prevents a future morass will alleviate the rancor and frustration that fuels this current fight.

My solutions #11, 12, 13: Real Immigration Reform= Safety & Stability=Fuel Job Growth & Grow Main Street.

By the way, if you think this email was a long one, look at it this way: I just delivered to you in 3 pages what the Gang of Eight and their phalanxes of lobbyists and aides in the Senate could not do in 1198 pages--real, common-sense solutions that are not an unjustifiable concession to the corporate monopolies and that are not a kick in the pants of small business and the American worker.

[If you like Ideas #11, 12, 13 click here now to contribute \\$20.](#)

[If you really like Ideas #11, 12, 13 contribute \\$123.](#)

[If Ideas #11, 12, 13 is your favorite so far, contribute \\$1230.](#)

For democracy,



Marisa DeFranco



Paid for by DeFranco for Congress
PO Box 103, Middleton MA 01949