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Have You Heard About The Marisa DeFranco Immigration Plan Yet?

Path to Legalization, Not Citizenship Five-Point Plan Brings Something New to theTable

MIDDLETON -- Marisa DeFranco has a real plan for immigration that honors our nation's rich history as a nation of immigrants while fixing the holes and cracks that have allowed our system to become broken over the years.

DeFranco, an immigration attorney, has spent years working for responsibility in immigration, and she has watched a broken system continue to grow the problem. She has a five point plan including:

1. **Implement Strong Fines** for employers violating the law and exploiting immigrants, requiring a corporation to pay 5-10% of their Gross Revenue.

2. **Increase Border and Port Security.** Increase the inspection rate from 4 percent to 10 percent over the next 12 months and 50 percent in four years. This increases jobs and security. Deport immigrants with felony convictions faster. Double the number of immigration judges. Increase Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents.

3. **Create a Path to Legalization, NOT Citizenship** for undocumented immigrants who refuse to go through the same process as legal immigrants.

4. **Repeal the the law banning re-entry for 3 and 10 years.** Replace it with 2-4 year bans.

5. Creating an "**Essential Worker Visa**" similar to the seasonal worker visa that exists now.

"The path to fixing our country's immigration problem only becomes visible when we take our collective heads out of the sand," DeFranco said. "Because undocumented immigrants broke our laws by crossing the border without inspection, or by overstaying their visas, there must be a penalty, but the solution doesn't stop there. We're not going to deport our way out of this crisis."

The DeFranco Plan calls for **earned legalization** as a solution. It takes full citizenship off the table for undocumented immigrants who do not go back to their home countries to begin the full, legal immigration process. It creates a path to legal living and working, where the immigrant goes to the back of the immigration line, behind all current applicants for a green card. They would also have to pay a penalty, back taxes, and pass an English test.

The DeFranco Plan also **repeals the 10-year ban on re-entry and replaces it with 2-4 year bans.** Congress passed a shortsighted 10-year bar on re-entry, but, in reality, the law only caused MORE undocumented immigrants to stay in this country and not return to their home countries, knowing they would face a 10-year ban.

The DeFranco Plan also creates an **Essential Worker Visa** to make sure we are not facing the same problem 20 years from now. We Create a Real Essential Worker Visa (CREW) similar to the current seasonal worker visa.

CREW visa requirements will be:

- * Employers must advertise for U.S. workers and prove they cannot find such workers.
- * Employers must pay prevailing average 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.

And she knows what she's talking about. Marisa DeFranco has been an immigration attorney for 17 years. She was named a Top Woman of Law by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly and has been recognized by the National Legal Aid and Defender Association's Beacon of Justice Award for her pro bono service.

Marisa DeFranco is the ONLY candidate in the 6th Congressional District Race with a true plan for immigration reform, and her plan creates more good paying jobs for Americans while presenting real solutions for the undocumented immigrants who are already here.

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Paid for by DeFranco for Congress
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