



ACLU Vote Recommendation for Grassley Amendment 1195 to S. 744

Status: This amendment is pending and may be voted on Wednesday, June 12 as early as noon or 2 pm eastern.

What it does: Grassley Amendment 1195 bars the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from processing applications for aspiring citizens until the Secretary has certified that DHS has maintained effective control of the Southern border for at least six months. (Under the base bill, DHS may begin processing applications when the Secretary notifies Congress that the agency has begun implementing the Comprehensive Southern Border Security Strategy and the Southern Border Fencing Strategy.) This is a variant of Grassley amendment 4, which was defeated 6 – 12 in Committee.

Vote Recommendation: The American Civil Liberties Union recommends a **NO** vote on Grassley Amendment 1195.

Possible Talking Points:

- There is no reason to hold up the important process of bringing millions of aspiring citizens out of the shadows. We should not delay identifying and documenting those who are residing in our country.
- This amendment will push back the launch of the legalization program by requiring the Secretary of DHS to certify that the agency has maintained effective control of the border *before* even starting the registration process for legalization. It ignores the fact that already significant progress has been made to secure our borders and that other provisions of the bill should not be held hostage to triggers that set unnecessary goals.

For more information, please contact Neema Singh Guliani, Legislative Counsel at 202-675-2322 or nguliani@dcaclu.org.