



E-Verify Talking Points

- **Without the passage of a comprehensive immigration reform bill that provides an earned path to citizenship for the undocumented, e-verify and other enforcement-only tactics will continue to be ineffective.** The prime example of this is Arizona where, despite having mandated e-verify in place since 2008, they are no closer to sensible solutions to address our broken immigration system.
- **The debate over e-verify is more about style than substance.** E-verify and other local immigration issues are incredibly divisive and have no history of providing real solutions. During these difficult economic times, local governments should try to unite their constituents around common solutions to economic problems and not allot scarce resources toward ineffective, counterproductive, and divisive measures.
- **E-verify will not stop unauthorized workers from garnering employment, and businesses will continue to hire them.** Experience in other areas where e-verify is mandatory shows that the program only forces unauthorized workers out of the formal economy and into the underground economy, where their wages aren't taxed. This results in a loss of revenue for our communities, something we can't afford right now.
- **E-verify is a crap shoot; it is only 46% effective at identifying unauthorized workers when they are hired (according to 2009 evaluation of the program by Westat) and it routinely places additional barriers between authorized workers and employment.**
- **Mandated e-verify is opposed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, major labor unions and many small businesses.** Despite representing 73% of all businesses in the U.S., small businesses represent only 12% of the companies enrolled in e-verify. This is true for the same reason the U.S. Chamber and other business associations oppose mandated e-verify—any way you spin it, e-verify is an added layer of paperwork and bureaucracy that many small businesses can't afford.

For more information, contact Toby Guevin, State Policy & Legislative Manager, at OneAmerica at 206.452.8416 or toby@weareoneamerica.org