

FCC REPORTS NETWORK NEWS 6:30 MARCH 16-31/ PART 2

03/16/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

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03/17/2012

630 & 1130

NOTHING TO REPORT

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03/18/2012

630 & 1130

IDENTITY THEFT

LUIS MEGID - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG: 1:48

Nineteen people were arrested in Nevada and eight other states in a Las Vegas-based identity theft and trafficking ring that a federal prosecutor characterized as a sophisticated racketeering organization involving 50 people nationwide. The scheme revolved around the buying and selling of pilfered debit and credit card information on an Internet site called "Carder.su," U.S. Attorney Daniel Bogden said Friday in Las Vegas. "The extent of the theft and sale of personal information uncovered by this investigation is astonishing," Bogden said in a statement dubbing the case "Operation Open Market." Secret Service and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement homeland security agents arrested five people Thursday in Las Vegas and 14 more in California, Florida, New York, Georgia, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and West Virginia, according to the statement. Court appearance information was not made public.

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03/19/2012

GAS PRICES

JAIME GARCIA / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:16

Gas prices are continuing their climb. The auto club AAA says the national average price for regular grade gasoline reached \$3.83 per gallon Friday, up 7 cents in the last week. Prices remain 31 cents higher than a month ago prices, 28 cents higher than a year ago and within 28 cents of the all-time record high of \$4.11 per gallon set in July 2008.

GENDER GAP PERSISTS IN COST OF HEALTH INSURANCE

VO :20

Women still pay more than men for the same health insurance coverage, according to new research and data from online brokers. The new health care law will prohibit such "gender rating," starting in 2014. But gaps persist in most states, with no evidence that insurers have taken steps to reduce them.

PEW HISPANIC STUDIES

VO :24

The 10 states with the largest Hispanic populations are California, Texas, Florida, New York, Illinois, Arizona, New Jersey, Colorado, New Mexico and Georgia. The 10 states in which the Hispanic share of the population is highest are New Mexico, Texas, California, Arizona, Nevada, Florida, Colorado, New Jersey, New York and Illinois. Nearly half (47%) of all Hispanics live in California (14.1 million) or Texas (9.5 million), down from 50% in 2000. California has 5.4 million Hispanic immigrants, more than any other state. California is followed by Texas, with 2.9 million Hispanic immigrants, and Florida with 2.1 million Hispanic immigrants.

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03/20/12

NEW YORK DREAM ACT

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ - NEW YORK

PKG: 1:48

While GOP Presidential hopefuls keep tripping over each other to show who is the most rabidly anti-immigrant, hundreds of New Yorkers are in Albany today advocating for the New York DREAM Act. Why the Republican politicians believe their extremism in immigration matters - a sure-fire way to alienate Latino voters - will help them become President is a mystery. After all, poll after poll confirms that the majority of the American people favors a reasonable solution to the immigration crisis.

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03/21/12

PEW HISPANIC CENTER TO RELEASE REPORT ON THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE JOBS RECOVERY

LILIANA ESCALANTE. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:00

Two years after the U.S. labor market hit bottom in 2009, the economic recovery has yielded slow but steady gains in overall employment. However, the pace of the jobs recovery varies across demographic groups. Hispanics and Asians are gaining jobs at a faster rate than blacks and whites, foreign-born workers are outpacing native-born workers, and men are faring better than women in the recovery, according to new Pew Research Center analysis of government data. For the most part, the disparate trends in the jobs recovery from 2009 to 2011 reflect the rapidly changing demographics of the American workforce. Groups whose working-age populations are growing the most have seen the biggest employment gains. But job growth has merely kept up with population growth for most groups, and their employment rates---- the share of the working-age population with jobs are still as low as they were at the end of the recession.

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03/22/2012

HISPANIC VOTE

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ. NEW YORK

PKG 2:00

NCLR (National Council of La Raza) launched its Mobilize to Vote (M2V) campaign, one of the country's largest Hispanic-focused civic engagement efforts working to register and mobilize 180,000 Latinos to vote on Election Day this coming November. As the largest minority group and fastest-growing population, Latinos will help determine the outcome of local, state, and national races. Given increasingly tight election margins, this influence will be felt not only in places with significant Latino populations, but also in states not traditionally associated with this community. In 2008, for example, the number of Latinos who voted was larger than the margins of victory in North Carolina and Indiana," noted Clarissa Martínez De Castro, NCLR Director of Civic Engagement.

OBAMA HEALTHCARE AND LATINOS

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:00

At an Iowa town hall last summer, an audience member prodded President Obama for failing to pass a single-payer health care system in 2010's Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The president admitted that his health reform law wasn't everything he wanted, but he defended it. As Friday marks the second anniversary of the law's passage, the White House is reminding Americans that the legislation has already expanded access.

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03/23/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

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03/24/2012

630 & 1130

NOTHING TO REPORT

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03/25/2012

630 & 1130

GEORGIA IMMIGRATION LAW

VO: 28

A bill making its way through the Georgia Legislature could prevent illegal immigrants from being able to get a marriage license or access to water and sewage service in the state. The bill sponsored by Sen. Barry Loudermilk, R-Cassville, has gotten a lot of attention because it would also bar illegal immigrants from the state's public colleges, universities and technical schools. But another provision that's generated very little discussion removes foreign passports from a list of identification documents that government agencies can accept for certain transactions. To be acceptable, foreign passports would have to be accompanied by federal immigration documentation proving someone is in the country legally.

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03/26/2012

SUPREME COURT HEALTH CARE

PABLO SANCHEZ/ WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:51

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday appeared prepared to decide the fate of President Barack Obama's sweeping healthcare law rather than delaying for years a review of the mandate that Americans buy insurance or pay a penalty. During the first of three days of historic arguments, the justices voiced doubt that a U.S. tax law requiring that people pay first and litigate later should delay the legal challenge to the president's signature domestic legislative achievement.

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03/27/12

HEALTHCARE REFORM

PABLO SANCHEZ / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:50

The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday appeared closely divided along ideological lines over whether Congress had the power to require most people in the United States to buy medical insurance, with conservative justices asking skeptical questions about President Barack Obama's healthcare law and liberals defending it. During a dramatic two hours of arguments, pivotal justices on the nine-member Supreme Court suggested they would uphold the so-called individual mandate regarding obtaining insurance only if they believed they were not giving Congress new power over people's lives.

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03/28/12

SUPREME COURT HEALTH REFORM

PABLO SANCHEZ / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 1:53

The Obama administration's top courtroom lawyer made an impassioned plea on Wednesday for the Supreme Court to save President Barack Obama's healthcare law, capping three days of historic arguments that left it unclear how the nine justices would rule. Having peppered lawyers for and against the law with questions for more than six hours over the three days, the justices withdrew to their chambers to begin up to three months of deliberation expected to yield a decision by late June.

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03/29/12

DEPORTATIONS SUSPENDED

VICTOR HUGO SAAVEDRA. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:00

The Obama administration is temporarily suspending immigration court dockets in four cities while authorities review thousands of cases as part of a plan to indefinitely delay deportation proceedings for many non-criminal illegal immigrants. The dockets in Detroit, New Orleans, Orlando, and Seattle will be suspended during the review cases involving illegal immigrants not held in Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody, the Department of Homeland Security said Thursday. ICE previously reviewed 11,682 in Baltimore and Denver. Officials recommended suspending more than 1,600 cases in those two cities. The reviews are part of an Obama administration pledge to focus deportation resources on criminal immigrants and those who pose a national security or public safety threat.

OBAMA WANTS TAX BREAKS FOR OIL COMPANIES STOPPED

PABLO SANCHEZ. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:00

President Barack Obama is renewing his call for Congress to end tax breaks to oil companies. In a Rose Garden speech Thursday, Obama will urge Congress to vote to end what the White House calls "the billions in taxpayer dollars handed out to oil companies every year." The address comes before a Senate procedural vote on a bill to repeal oil tax subsidies. Obama is also expected to suggest how the money could be spent on clean energy.

UNEMPLOYMENT LOWEST

VO :20

The number of people seeking U.S. unemployment benefits dropped last week to the lowest level in four years, adding to evidence that the job market is strengthening. The Labor Department said Thursday that weekly unemployment benefit applications fell by 5,000 to a seasonally adjusted 359,000. That's the smallest number of applicants since April 2008. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, declined to 365,000, the lowest since May 2008. The department also made its annual revisions to the past five years of unemployment benefit data. The revisions increased the number of unemployment benefit applicants in recent months. But the downward trend remains intact, though it is less dramatic. In the past six months, applications have fallen about 12 percent. Before the revisions, the decline was 16 percent.

US TO INCREASE NONIMMIGRANT VISA FEE

VO :20

The U.S. Department of State has announced it will increase non-immigrant visa processing fees in most categories starting from April 13. Under the new schedule of fees, applicants for all visas that are not petition-based, including tourist and business

visitor (B1/B2) visas and all student and exchange visitor (F, M and J) visas, will pay a fee of \$160 instead of \$140.

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03/30/12

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630 & 1130

NEW RULE FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

JUAN CARLOS GONZALEZ - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG: 1:58

The Obama administration is proposing to make it easier for illegal immigrants who are immediate family members of American citizens to apply for permanent residency, a move that could affect as many as 1 million of the estimated 11 million immigrants living illegally here. The new rule, which the Department of Homeland Security will post for public comment Monday, will reduce the time illegal immigrants are separated from their American families while seeking legal status, immigration officials said. Currently, such immigrants must leave the country to apply for a legal visa, often leading to long stints away as they await resolution of their applications. The proposal is the latest move by the administration to use its executive powers to revise immigration procedures without changing the law. It reflects an effort by President Barack Obama to improve his standing among Latino voters who feel he has not met his 2008 campaign promise to pursue comprehensive immigration reform.

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