

DESPIERTA AMERICA - PART 2 - FCC Reports June 2012

ALABAMA IMMIGRATION LAW LATEST

Alabama's governor on Friday signed legislation that he said will simplify and clarify the state's controversial anti-illegal immigration law, considered one of the country's toughest. Gov. Robert Bentley said in a press release that he approved the measure "to make House Bill 56 better," referring to the law that went into effect last year. There is substantial progress in this bill," the governor said. Burdens on legal residents and businesses are eased, and the goal remains the same -- that if you live and work in Alabama, you must do so legally. But critics have derided both the first bill and the revised version. Olivia Turner, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Alabama branch, chided Bentley for authorizing the legislation and expressed hope that courts would strike it down. Governor Bentley had the opportunity to send a message to lawmakers that the racial profiling, discrimination and fear these laws spark must be stopped Turner said in an e-mailed statement; Sadly, he declined. We are hopeful the courts will soon overturn these shameful measures once and for all. The original legislation, HB 56, included provisions requiring police who make lawful traffic stops or arrests to try to determine the immigration status of anyone they suspect might be in the country illegally

ARIZONA IMMIGRATION LAW TV

Nearly two-dozen media outlets serving Arizona's Latino community will interrupt their regular programming to jointly air a special on the state's immigration law ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the controversial measure. Television and radio stations in Phoenix, Tucson and Yuma will broadcast the 30-minute feature at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday as part of the Hoy Somos Arizona (Today We Are Arizona) initiative. The effort aims to address the fears and concerns of Hispanics as they await the high court's decision on Arizona law SB 1070, which aims to criminalize the presence of undocumented immigrants in the state. Latino media in Arizona have been on the front lines of this struggle covering this controversial law since it was first introduced in the Arizona State Legislature, Ben Monterroso, national executive director of Mi Familia Vota Education Fund, said Monday at a press conference outside the state capitol. After years of documenting the effects that anti-immigrant and anti-Latino policies and legislation can have on the Latino community, he said, Hispanic media outlets have taken the steps necessary to unite the community and empower individuals with the information they need to defend their rights. The Supreme Court will rule by the end of this month on the U.S. Justice Department's challenge to SB 1070. Several of the law's provisions, including one that requires law enforcement officers to verify the immigration status of anyone they suspect of being in the country illegally, remain blocked by a lower court injunction

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TUITION

illegal immigrants that the state's Republican attorney general says is against the law. Metropolitan State College of Denver's decision this month has drawn criticism from Republicans who rejected legislation this session that also sought to make higher education less expensive for illegal immigrants. The Joint Budget Committee is scheduled to talk with Metro State about the new rate Wednesday Attorney General John Suthers issued an opinion Tuesday, saying Metro State's unilateral decision is not supported by governing law. He says lawmakers must decide whether to provide the benefit to illegal immigrants. The new tuition rate lets certain illegal immigrants attend college at about \$3,578 per semester. That's about half what they'd pay under the nonresident rate

FOOD STAMP FUNDS MAY BE REDUCED

The farm bill being debated in the reduces funding for food stamps and is finding support from both sides of the aisle as lawmakers look for ways to cut the nation's rising debt in an election year. Trimming back on eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, as food stamps are called, would save \$4 billion over the decade. Republicans are pushing to reduce that even more. But the shift in attitudes at a time when the economy remains sluggish in many parts of the country has drawn protests from anti-poverty groups and some Democrats. Increased SNAP participation has helped millions of families avoid hunger during this deep recession, said Matthew Sharp, a senior advocate at California Food Policy Advocates. We see any reduction of the size of benefits as a hit that families can't afford to take. The voluminous farm bill is one of the few bipartisan efforts in this deeply divided Congress. If approved, it will set agriculture policy for the next five years. As record deficits fuel anxiety, lawmakers have chiseled \$23 billion from agricultural programs - even below reductions mandated for the coming fiscal year by last summer's debt deal with the White House. But the hit to the food stamps program, which has seen its costs skyrocket during the economic downturn, has sparked debate

NOTHING TO REPORT

OBAMA TO ADDRESS LATINO LEADERS A DAY AFTER ROMNEY

President Barack Obama is drawing attention to his breakthrough directive on illegal immigration and is pressing his jobs agenda before Hispanic leaders. The president's address Friday to a Florida gathering comes one day after the Hispanic officials gave a cool reception to GOP presidential challenger Mitt Romney and his newly softened stance on immigration. The president's speech to the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is his first to a Hispanic group since he decreed that many young illegal immigrants brought to the United States as children would be exempted from deportation and granted work permits good

for two years. The immigration initiative has drawn renewed attention to the key Hispanic voting bloc and its potential for affecting the presidential election with its turnout and energy.

LIVERS 3 SEGMENTS APROX 2:30 EACH

A U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Monday upholding a key part of Arizona's crackdown on illegal immigrants may lend support to states where Republican-led legislatures have passed similar laws, insisting they had to in a policy area in which the federal government has failed

AP POLL ECONOMY

When it comes to the economy, half of Americans in a new poll say it won't matter much whether Barack Obama or Mitt Romney wins -- even though the presidential candidates have staked their chances on which would be better at fixing the economic mess. People are especially pessimistic about the future president's influence over jobs, according to the Associated Press-GfK poll. Asked how much impact the November winner will have on unemployment, 6 in 10 gave answers ranging from slim to none

CITIES EFFORTS TO MAKE EXERCISE

Fitness is often a combination of personal choice and environmental support, experts say, and a ranking of the 50 healthiest U.S. cities seems to reinforce the theory. High rates of physical activity helped to propel Minneapolis-St. Paul to the top of the list of the American College of Sports Medicine's 2012 American Fitness Index (AFI) for the second year in a row, while raised obesity levels and smoking pushed Oklahoma City to the bottom

OLDER AMERICANS VISION PROBLEMS

Despite a general increase in health conditions like diabetes that can harm vision, Americans over 65 are about half as likely as their counterparts a generation ago to report having seriously impaired vision, according to a new U.S. study. Using two large national surveys, researchers found the percentage of older adults who said they needed help performing daily tasks because of severe vision problems fell from 3.5 percent in 1984 to 1.7 percent in 2010. Those whose poor eyesight made it difficult to read or make out certain objects declined from 23 percent in 1984 to 10 percent in 2010

KIDS CEREALS ARE HEALTHIER ADS NOT

While U.S. food companies are making healthier breakfast cereals for children, they're also aiming more ads for their unhealthiest products at kids, according to a report issued on

Friday. The Cereal Facts study from Yale University's Rudd Center for Food Policy Obesity offers an outside assessment of the industry's actions and comes amid rising alarm over diet-related health costs in the United States, where nearly a third of children are overweight or obese.

US-IMMIGRATION/COURT-UTAH

A U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Monday that upheld a key part of Arizona's crackdown on illegal immigrants will set the pace for Utah and other states where laws have been on hold pending the high court decision. Passed in 2011, a year after Arizona's law, Utah's bill requires law enforcement to check the immigration status of anyone detained for a felony or serious misdemeanor. Unlike neighboring Arizona, Utah makes checks discretionary for those suspected of lesser offenses. "I went out of my way to tame down (Utah's law), to really specifically go after criminals and not the soccer mom," said state Representative Stephen Sandstrom, chief architect of Utah's law. Unlike Arizona, Utah passed provisions outlining a guest worker program and allowing illegal immigrants to receive in-state tuition. But those aspects did not take effect, and experts say implementation is unlikely. Human rights activists see little difference in the policies of the two states. "There is this idea that Utah is more pro-immigrant than other states," said Esperanza Granados, an attorney for the Utah American Civil Liberties Union. "The truth is that it (the law) has the same impact on the community. There is a risk of racial profiling. People are afraid."

TROPICAL WEATHER

Rising water on the Anclote and Cotee rivers lead to a call for mandatory evacuations in many New Port Richey neighborhoods Tuesday. Deputies huddled up in a Walmart parking lot, mapping areas they would survey. Then they hit the ground in the Mill Pond neighborhood going door to door to advise people to get out before the water rises more and electricity to the area is shut off. "What will I do with my house, one woman asked deputies who told her to leave. Marge McDaniel prepared to leave with her caretaker Virginia and a box of medication. "I don't really want to leave but I guess we have to. We don't have a choice, do we?" The Sheriff's Office says while the evacuations are mandatory, they would not force people out of their homes. An estimated 20,000 people live in the affected areas. Some neighborhoods are under water, but others are still relatively dry. "We anticipate it's going to get worse, so most of the people did voluntarily say they are going to leave," said Lt. Rodney Bishop with the Pasco Sheriff's Office. The local VFW helped out, bringing in military transport trucks to get people in and out. Mark Goss says they can drive through just about anything. That's why we're here. And where trucks can't go, like the Seven Springs mobile home park, Florida Fish and wildlife brought out boats.

WILDFIRES LATEST

This is a firestorm of epic proportions, Richard Brown, the Colorado Springs Fire chief, said late Tuesday. Winds gusting to 65 mph through mountain canyons blew the wildfire through containment lines into northwest Colorado Springs on Tuesday afternoon. Gov. John Hickenlooper surveyed the Waldo Canyon Fire, telling reporters it was a difficult sight to see. There were people's home's burned to the ground. It was surreal, he said late Tuesday night. There's no question, it's serious. It's as serious as it gets The 6,200-acre fire remained only 5% contained. Officials labeled it as exhibiting extreme fire behavior Becky Shormann has nervously listened to news reports since Saturday, the day the fire started prompting her to evacuate the area with her husband. She hoped her home would be spared

NOTHING TO REPORT

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