

Trump's roundup of undocumented workers may bring glee to some but think what it would do to New Mexico's fragile economy.

1. At risk are some 6000 thousand jobs connected to commercial jobs along border, business that do business with Mexico.
2. Some people do not understand that immigrants documented or undocumented contribute to the economy, buying essentials to live, grocery stores, car dealerships, to the economy in general.
3. Schools get dollars from the state per pupil documented or undocumented. Get rid of undocumented children—or of US citizen children because their parents are undocumented—and then get rid of teachers who make a living by teaching and this would generate another hole in the economy of the state and local governments.
4. Some people think that undocumented workers only take from the system and not contribute. They have to have a place to live so they rent or buy through a documented relative, thereby paying taxes. But many also pay federal income taxes.
5. Pecans, pistachios, and chile crops, who do you think pick these crops? Hard working undocumented workers who want nothing more than to support their families.

Who do you think does most of the ranch work in New Mexico tending to alfalfa fields and getting it ready for market? Workers documented or undocumented.

It is very interesting to note that Trump is planning to hire 10,000 ICE and 5,000 more border patrol agents to keep us safe from undocumented worker who toil in our fields who could possible use their rakes and shovels as weapons against us.

Instead of building a wall to protect us from these undocumented workers let's put these new 15,000 agents along with the thousands agents currently watching the border let them hold hands and I am sure there is plenty of them to reach from Texas to California and it would be less expensive than a 20 billion dollar trump wall. As it is, we have almost 10 Border Patrol agents per linear mile and this does not include

another 6,000 Office of Field Operations officers who are at the ports of entry and 6,000 (i.e., one-fourth of all of ICE staff) at the U.S.-Mexico border.

When I ran for Congress in 2002 I advocated for work permits for Mexican workers to come and pick the crops legally and if they committed no crimes they would have a way to citizenship. That went nowhere but problem still exists and our congressman Steve Pearce has not found a way to solve the problem

Comprehensive immigration is the answer but it has not happened, WHY NOT? because the republican party cannot come to grips that sanctions against employers that hire undocumented workers cannot happen because most employers are usually republicans.

We are in dire situation with families being torn apart and families fearful of the immigration police. Lets bring these undocumented workers and the children who were brought to this country at young age at no fault of there own, bring them into the sunlight and welcome them to pay taxes and contribute to their country and communities.

COMPASSIONATE COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION is the answer not random roundups they are not (??) animals.

Leo