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Arizona Immigration Law Author: Failure to Enforce Law Impeachable Offense

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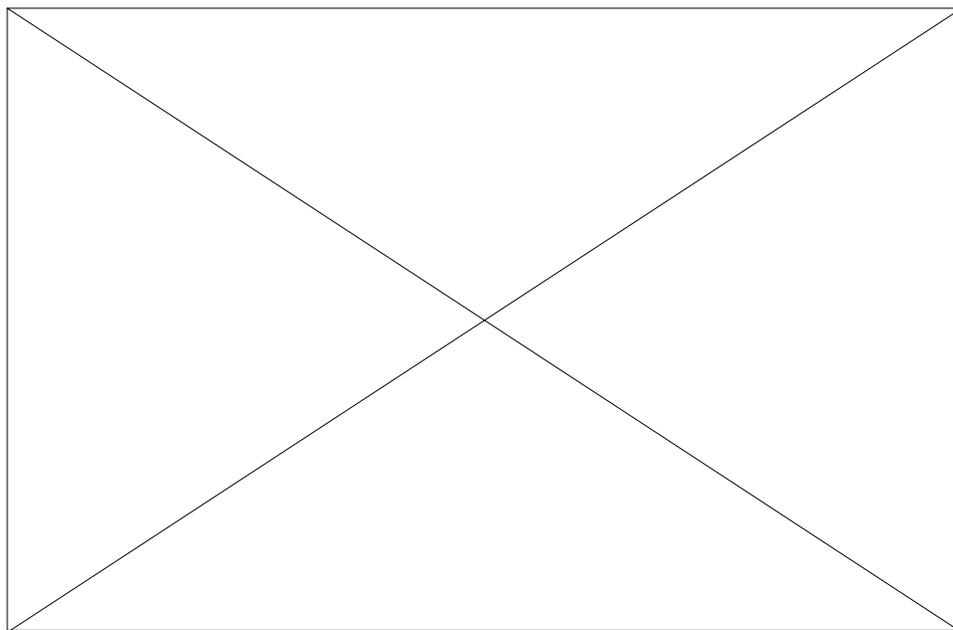
By: Jim Meyers

State Sen. Russell Pearce, the chief architect of Arizona's tough immigration law, tells Newsmax that the recent court ruling on the law was a "huge win" for Americans fighting to stem the flow of illegal aliens in this country.

Pearce, a Republican who represents parts of suburban Phoenix, also says the law "scares" the Obama administration because it will lead to the enforcement of immigration laws — and agrees that Obama's failure to enforce those laws is an "impeachable" offense.

A highly decorated former law officer, Pearce crafted and co-sponsored Arizona SB1070, the immigration bill that was passed in April. Federal Judge Susan Bolton blocked some of the most controversial parts of the legislation, but Pearce remains cheered by the results.

Story continues below.



"It's been a long battle," he says. "I prepared for the fistfight. I knew it was coming, getting sued by the open border crowd, the left-wing folks who fight you on any effort to enforce the law. So I knew what was coming.

"But we won. It's a huge win. We won everything we really needed to win.

"The main thrust of 1070 was [against] sanctuary policies" that restrict the enforcement of immigration laws in certain jurisdictions. "They're actually illegal under federal law. But

[federal officials] don't sue them, they sue Arizona because we decide to enforce the law.

"The other parts that she blocked temporarily were important tools, but what did go into effect, people need to understand, is that sanctuary policies in the state of Arizona are now illegal. She didn't block that piece. So law enforcement may enforce the federal law to the fullest extent of the law.

"And if they don't, we the people will sue government — that's also in the bill. If they block or interfere or limit the enforcement of these laws in any manner, we will sue.

"The other piece that stayed in there is on day laborer issues. It's a felony to hire them. We're going to stop the hiring of illegal aliens that take a job from Americans. If you pick up an illegal alien day laborer, you're going to go to jail. Your car is going to be impounded for 30 days, mandatory. So some significant pieces are still in effect and are huge in this bill.

"This law has teeth. That's what scares people. That scares the Obama administration, which has a non-enforcement policy."

Pearce was asked how he reacted to Sarah Palin's comment that Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer "has the cojones that our president doesn't have."

"I reacted very well to that comment," he tells Newsmax. "I appreciate the governor's vigilance in defense of the bill.

"During the debate over 1070, a good friend of mine was murdered — right after [Janet] Napolitano, your Homeland Security director, said the border is more secure than ever. Simply not true.

"Fifteen Phoenix police officers, just to pick on Phoenix, were murdered or maimed at the hands of illegal aliens. Enough is enough. We spend \$2.7 billion a year in Arizona to educate, medicate, and incarcerate. It's the citizens that pay the price for this illegal alien invasion that can no longer be ignored."

Pearce cited one Arizona family that has been terrorized by illegal aliens who come across the border, suffering "18 burglaries, three home invasions, multiple vehicles stolen. At night they hear a noise outside and they pray for daylight. They have their doors boarded, their windows boarded. And we have a federal government that stands by and thinks that's O.K., that's just collateral damage as they move forward with their agenda of amnesty. Enough is enough."

Pearce says he is encouraged by other states that are following in Arizona's footsteps and seeking to pass immigration legislation.

"Over 20 states are going to model legislation after 1070, so I'm extremely encouraged. In fact, I've talked to 34 states that would like to do it but don't have a legislature or governor that would sign a bill.

"That's what scares the Obama administration. They're not worried about profiling. They're not worried about anything but enforcement. What scares them is the fact that the laws are actually going to be enforced."

He says the administration is worried about enforcement for two political reasons.

"First of all you have the open border anarchists who want to change the political makeup of America, and that's through change in the demographics. Their best hope is open borders.

“Then you’ve got the other side, the corporate oligarchy, the profits-over-patriotism crowd. They want cheap labor. They don’t care what the cost is to America, and they have a stranglehold on Washington D.C., while 70 to 80 percent of Americans say close the borders, enforce the law.”

Pearce agrees with South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham that the policy established by the 14th Amendment — that anyone born in the U.S. is a citizen — needs to be changed because it was never intended to be applied to aliens.

Sen. Jon Kyl says that when he asked President Obama to secure the border, Obama’s response was that if he did, it would remove the incentive for Republicans to negotiate on comprehensive immigration reform. Former Colorado Rep. Tom Tancredo has called the refusal to enforce the law an impeachable offense. Pearce was asked if he agrees.

“Absolutely,” he declares.

“Five to ten thousand folks come across that border daily, and what’s coming across — 20 percent have criminal convictions — are gang members, drug smugglers, human smugglers, child molesters, rapists. It’s an invasion. It’s in violation of the Constitution. Yes, it’s impeachable. He not only neglects to do it, now he’s refusing to do it. It’s impeachable.”

As for reports that a Mexican drug cartel has placed a \$1 million bounty on the head of tough Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, Pearce says “the silence is almost deafening from Washington, D.C.”



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