



The Senate Connection

Connecting Davie and Rowan Counties
with news from the
Office of Senator Andrew Brock

1119 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601-2808
(919) 715-0690 • andrewb@ncleg.net



Sen. Andrew Brock
Republican

This Week:
**SOLVING NORTH
CAROLINA'S ILLEGAL
IMMIGRATION CRISIS**

May 3, 2007
Raleigh, NC

Senator Brock: It's Time that We Get Something Done about Illegal Immigration in North Carolina

Progress towards solving illegal immigration in North Carolina has got Senator Andrew Brock frustrated.

"The General Assembly has very little in the way of solving our illegal immigration crisis," the senator said. "The federal government hasn't done much either and that's why it's incumbent upon leaders on the state level to come up with solutions. Unfortunately, the Democratic leadership of the legislature has stalled most all of the common-sense measures introduced by members of the Republican caucus."

This legislative session, Senator Brock is sponsoring more than ten bills aimed at reducing the presence and impact of illegal immigrants in North Carolina.

Senator Brock Pushes Bill to Reduce the Number of Illegal Immigrants in North Carolina's Jails and Prisons

Senator Brock has joined with thirteen other senators to sponsor a bill aimed at reducing the number of illegal immigrants in North Carolina's prisons and jails. Senate bill 405 would require that jailors identify illegal immigrants in their custody and request that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security take them into federal custody. The bill also requires that governor demand that the federal government designate certain detainment facilities where North Carolina law enforcement officials may transfer illegals or that the federal government reimburse the state for the cost of incarcerating them.

"North Carolinians should not have to bear the cost of incarcerating criminals who are in this country illegally. It's the federal government's job to secure our borders and prevent people from coming into this country and doing us harm. However, if they're not going to do their job, the least they can do is reimburse us for doing it for them," the senator said.

The senator went on to say: "In the next few years North Carolina is going to face a serious shortage of beds in our prisons and it's going to be very expensive to find build new prisons. Part of the problem we face is that we have so many illegal aliens in our system. Getting illegals out of our jails would go a long way to solving our prison bed shortage."

The legislation is currently stalled in committee.

Senator Brock Sponsors Legislation to Allow N.C. Law Enforcement Officials to Act as Federal Immigration Officers

A new bill in the State Senate would allow North Carolina's law enforcement officials to perform some of the duties of federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. Senate bill 807 instructs the State Attorney General and State Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the federal government to allow "State law enforcement officers to perform the functions of federal immigration officers in relation to the investigation, apprehension, or detention of aliens."

"Part of the problem we have in North Carolina with illegal immigration is that our law enforcement professionals are essentially powerless when it comes to this issue. Senate bill 807 changes that. It gives them the tools they need to start making a difference in our state. As I've said before, if the federal government will not do its part to fix illegal immigration, then we as a state have to find our own solutions. This bill is the perfect state-sponsored solution," Senator Brock said.

Senator Brock Moves to Ensure that Businesses, Social Service Agencies Verify Legal Status

As part of a continued effort by State Senate Republicans to crack down on illegal immigration, Senator Brock has joined with fifteen other senators to sponsor a bill which establishes several new requirements for both businesses and social service agencies with respect to illegal immigrants.

The first part of the legislation addresses businesses in North Carolina that hire illegal immigrants. The bill disqualifies those companies from receiving economic development incentives from the state. The bill also prohibits both the state and local governments from contracting with companies that hire illegals. "Part of the problem we're having with illegal immigration is that businesses are hiring illegals. This legislation makes hiring them less lucrative," Senator Brock said.

The second part of the legislation requires that social service agencies distributing public assistance verify that those receiving the assistance are lawfully in the United States.

As with most other pieces of immigration reform legislation, Senate bill 573 is stalled in committee.