

Mr. Mehlman,

I replied briefly and hastily yesterday. I wanted to respond in a more productive way today.

I am incredibly disappointed in the lack of common-sense leadership that President Bush has displayed on the immigration issue. It appears to me that President Bush has been swallowed up by the political machine and by those less interested in protecting our borders that he himself should be.

We must secure the border immediately. President Bush is not doing that. There is no reason, other than political ones, for securing the borders to be tied to a guest-worker/amnesty program. They are separate issues that deserve independent debate.

I do not support the Presidents "comprehensive" plan on immigration. I am disturbed by his "great friendship" with Vicente Fox, who seems to head one of the most corrupt governments out there and who is clearly working against the best interest of the U.S. when it comes to our border control.

I consider myself to be a core conservative. I admire Senators Coburn, Sessions, DeMint, and Inhofe. In the House, I greatly admire Mike Pence.

The GOP has lost my support, to whatever degree that matters. I will no longer compromise for the lesser of two bad options...whether that be for elected office or on specific issues.

Thank you for your e-mails, and for your efforts. I'm afraid, however, that Republicans have become too "liberal" and are no longer deserving of conservative support. I hope that changes.

Regards,

Martin Thompson



Dear Martin,

Our immigration system is broken. And we need your help to fix it.

In his address to the nation last night, President Bush showed the way to getting real results on this difficult issue. We need your help today to stand up in support of the President's bold plan. **Sign the petition** and **call your Senators and Representatives** to demand immediate action on comprehensive immigration reform.

Our nation faces a long-term problem that requires a long-term solution. As the President outlined, America needs real reform that includes:

- Dramatic increases in manpower and technology at the border
- A system of controlled, temporary, and legal entry into the United States that meets our economic needs and relieves the pressure of illegal immigration at the border. No amnesty.
- Holding employers who hire illegal immigrants accountable, with beefed-up ID requirements - no excuses.

Harry Reid and Senate Democrats have played partisan politics and resisted these basic reform principles and have attempted to block border security legislation at every turn. Every day of Reid's obstruction is one more day with a broken system that isn't working.

Sign our petition to demand solutions, not politics. And **call your Senators** and Representatives to tell them that you support the President's plan for real border security.

America is a nation of laws. We are also a welcoming nation, one that moves forward confidently in the tradition of Ronald Reagan, who called America a "shining city on the hill" with the doors "open to anyone with the will and the heart to get here." There is no contradiction between these American values. Together, we will secure the border and welcome those who wish to come here legally and build a better life.

This is a decisive moment. **The time for action on immigration reform is now.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Mehlman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Mehlman

Chairman, Republican National Committee