



NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL

of the

American Federation of Government Employees

Affiliated with AFL-CIO



September 13, 2004

The Honorable John Culberson
United States House of Representatives
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Culberson,

The National Border Patrol Council, representing approximately 10,000 non-supervisory Border Patrol employees, appreciates your support of the dedicated men and women who risk their lives enforcing our immigration laws. As you might well imagine, laws and policies that encourage illegal aliens to enter and remain in our country are extremely disheartening to these employees, and transform an extremely daunting mission into one that cannot possibly be accomplished.

Although the acceptance of *matricula consular* cards by financial institutions may seem innocuous, upon closer scrutiny it becomes evident that there are numerous significant problems associated with this practice. Despite the fact that these documents only establish Mexican citizenship, they are widely accepted for a number of other purposes in the United States, including providing access to secure buildings and modes of transportation. Even if their use were legislatively limited to financial purposes, that alone would still serve as a powerful incentive for illegal aliens to remain in our country in defiance of our immigration laws. This is not sound public policy.

For these reasons, the National Border Patrol Council strongly supports Section 216 of H.R. 5025, the Fiscal Year 2005 appropriations bill for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury and independent agencies.

Sincerely,

T.J. Bonner
President
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