

Introduced by Senator Wyland

August 21, 2014

Senate Joint Resolution No. 33—Relative to national security.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SJR 33, as introduced, Wyland. National security: borders.

The measure would urge the President and the Congress of the United States to take immediate and decisive action to ensure that entry into, and exit from, the United States is properly controlled in order to ensure our national security. The measure would also urge the President and Congress to further broaden political consensus on visitor and immigration law enforcement.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, America was attacked by
- 2 19 terrorists with foreign passports using student or tourist visas
- 3 to enter the country; and
- 4 WHEREAS, As a result of those attacks, a bipartisan 9/11
- 5 Commission was convened to investigate the circumstances
- 6 surrounding the September 11 attacks, including recommendations
- 7 for guarding against future attacks; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The 9/11 Commission Report found that “as many
- 9 as 15 of the 19 hijackers were potentially vulnerable to interception
- 10 by border authorities”; and
- 11 WHEREAS, On April 15, 2013, the Boston Marathon route was
- 12 bombed by suspects Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev; and
- 13 WHEREAS, The friends of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who are accused
- 14 of interfering with the Boston bombing investigation to help him,

1 were living in the United States on expired or invalid student visas;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The lack of entry and exit enforcement of the
4 border puts our nation at risk for infiltration and attack by foreign
5 terrorists; and

6 WHEREAS, The Migration Policy Institute reports that as many
7 as 40 percent of those in the United States illegally are overstaying
8 formerly valid student, temporary, business, or tourist visas; and

9 WHEREAS, Recent polls have found that an overwhelming
10 majority of likely United States voters would not support an
11 immigration reform plan that failed to address concerns of
12 unauthorized entry into the country; and

13 WHEREAS, Effective entry and exit control of the border is a
14 prerequisite for public confidence in any changes to, or
15 enforcement of, current visa policy or immigration law; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
18 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature urges the President and
19 the Congress of the United States to take immediate and decisive
20 action to ensure that entry into, and exit for those whose lawful
21 presence has expired from, the United States is properly controlled
22 in order to ensure our national security, and to further broaden
23 political consensus on visitor and immigration law enforcement,
24 and be it further

25 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
26 this resolution to the President of the United States, to the Speaker
27 of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the
28 Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the
29 Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate
30 distribution.

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