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INTERIOR IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SECURITY
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

FEBRUARY 11, 2015

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This document corrects the error in the dates on the front cover, the contents page (p. III), and page one of the printed hearing.
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OFFICIAL HEARING RECORD

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE HEARING RECORD BUT NOT REPRINTED

Submissions for the Record from the Honorable Zoe Lofgren, a Representative in Congress from the State of California, and Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. These submissions are available at the Subcommittee and can also be accessed at:

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 1:03 p.m., in room 2141, Rayburn Office Building, the Honorable Trey Gowdy (Chairman of the Subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Gowdy, Goodlatte, Lofgren, Conyers, Smith, King, Buck, Ratcliffe, Trott, Jackson Lee, and Gutiérrez.

Staff Present: (Majority) Allison Halatei, Parliamentarian & General Counsel; George Fishman, Subcommittee Chief Counsel; Dimple Shah, Counsel; Andrea Loving, Counsel; Graham Owens, Clerk; and (Minority) Tom Jawetz, Minority Counsel.

Mr. GOWDY. Welcome. The Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security will come to order. Without objection, the Chair is authorized to declare recesses of the Committee at any time.

We welcome everyone; our witnesses and our guests. I would remind our guests that they are indeed guests and disruptions will be dealt with by removal. With that, I would recognize myself for an opening statement and then my friend from California for her opening statement.

The consensus in our country is that the current immigration system is broken, unworkable and not functioning for the best interests of our fellow citizens, and part of that is the widely held belief among our fellow citizens that our borders are insufficiently secured and frankly border security is much broader than simply a negotiating item in an ongoing immigration debate.

Border security is part of what defines a sovereign nation; the ability to control who comes and goes and provide assurances that national security is indeed the preeminent function of the Federal Government. But even the most secured of borders will not alleviate the need for further reforms and off repeated statistics bears mentioning again, which is that around 40 percent of those who are not in the country lawfully originally entered through lawful means. Simply put, around 40 percent of the undocumented population were invited here and overstayed their invitation. And, no fence can be designed or built to deal with the issue of internal se-