

DAVE DENENBERG
LEGISLATOR, DISTRICT 19



NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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October 9, 2007

COMMITTEE CHAIR: PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LABOR
GOVERNMENT SERVICES
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
PUBLIC WORKS

COMMITTEE MEMBER: JUDICIARY

RULES

Governor Elliot Spitzer Executive Chamber The State Capitol Albany, NY 12224

Re: Driver Licensing of Illegal Immigrants

Dear Governor Spitzer:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to your announced plan to allow illegal immigrants to obtain New York State driver licenses.

I do not believe that there is any benefit to the state or the county in allowing illegal immigrants to obtain valid New York State driver licenses. Illegal immigrants would be just as likely to drive vehicles without proper registration and insurance regardless of whether they are licensed. In fact, with valid drivers licenses, illegal immigrants would be even more likely to buy and drive a vehicle which then would not have proper registration and insurance.

Illegal immigrants with valid licenses would then be in the competitive job market for those employers seeking to hire drivers. The result would be that citizens and those legally in the state that are employed as drivers would be at a competitive disadvantage. Specifically, employers could hire people with valid licenses at less than the going rate because of their illegal status. This would have a serious and deleterious affect on the competitive market for drivers.

Further, the Board of Elections would not be able to differentiate illegal immigrants with valid driver licenses from United States citizens. This may result in illegal immigrants being able to vote – a right that is reserved for citizens and protected under our constitution.

Please take all requisite action to implement this request. Specifically, please reconsider your plan to allow illegal immigrants to apply for drivers licenses in New York State. This will have a detrimental effect on the security, economy and constitutional rights of citizens of our state.

Thank you for your anticipated courtesy and cooperation. Please keep me advised as to the status of this matter.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

David W. Denenberg Legislator, 19th District

DD/cb