

WASHINGTON, DC—Today the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration moved to mark up the so-called “Legal Workforce Act,” which would require every employer in the United States to use a flawed electronic employment verification system known as E-Verify to check the immigration status of everyone in America who applies for a job. Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, and Ranking Member on the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security, released the following statement in reaction to the legislation’s markup:

“The last thing the American economy needs right now is a costly, unreliable, and unfunded government mandate that threatens American jobs and puts a massive new burden on Social Security.

The mandatory E-Verify scheme envisioned in this bill would place an unfunded \$9 billion burden over the next ten years on an already-strained Social Security Administration. That could mean a reduction in services for people who rely on Social Security to make ends meet. It could force American citizens to fight a government bureaucracy if the notoriously unreliable E-Verify system erroneously tells a potential employer that they may not have a right to work. And it would place a new regulatory burden on businesses, big and small, that want to hire American workers.□

We should be encouraging private sector job creation, cutting programs that don’t work and investing in programs that do. This E-Verify legislation moves us in the wrong direction.”