

# State of Vermont Senate Chamber



## Montpelier, Vermont Senate Resolution

By Senator Sears, Brock and White,

**S.R. 9.** Senate resolution urging Congress to adopt comprehensive immigration reform legislation at the earliest possible date.

*Whereas*, Article 1 § 8, clause 4 of the United States Constitution provides in relevant part that “Congress shall have Power To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization,” and

*Whereas*, America’s immigration laws are hopelessly outdated and do not address the realities of 2011, and

*Whereas*, a large number of persons annually seek to enter the United States illegally, some successfully and others are caught, often only to try again until they achieve their goal, and

*Whereas*, there are millions of illegal immigrants residing in the United States as well as children who accompanied their parents, and

*Whereas*, several states have attempted to adopt their own immigration laws because of federal inaction, notwithstanding the clear constitutional directive assigning naturalization matters to Congress, and

*Whereas*, health care for illegal immigrants is a matter of great concern, and

*Whereas*, the Vermont Senate’s proposal of amendment to H.202 “An Act related to a universal and unified health system” contained a provision barring access to the legislation’s newly established Green Mountain Care program for persons “not lawfully present in the United States,” and

*Whereas*, although the conferees on H.202 ultimately decided to substitute this statutory prohibition with a study to examine access to Green Mountain Care for persons not legally in the United States, the raising of this issue during deliberations on H.202 is just one state’s example of the need for comprehensive federal immigration reform legislation, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate:***

That the Senate of the State of Vermont urges Congress to adopt comprehensive immigration reform legislation at the earliest possible date, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED TO:

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John H. Bloomer, Jr.  
Secretary of the Senate

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_