

Immigration Policy Center (IPC)

...providing factual information about immigration and immigrants in the United States.

For Immediate Release

New CIS Report on Noncitizen Voters Looks for Problems Where None Exist

September 15, 2008

Washington, DC – A new report released by the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) on Monday, September 15, 2008, highlights the issue of localities that permit noncitizens to vote in local elections. The following is a statement by Angela Kelley, Director of the Immigration Policy Center, an immigration research organization in Washington, DC.

“Today the Center for Immigration Studies released a report entitled “Allowing Noncitizens to vote in the United States? Why Not” and hosted a panel to discuss it at the National Press Club. The report itself highlights the issue of localities that permit noncitizens to vote in local elections, which by the panelists’ own admissions, is not widespread and has little potential of becoming so.

Next, in an effort to hit a double but instead striking out, CIS trotted out another non-issue--alleged voter fraud by noncitizens. CIS failed to score because yet again they picked an issue where the evidence is thin and examples are refuted as captured in IPC's July, 2008 fact sheet [Chicken Little In The Voting Booth](#). The only example cited by CIS Director, Mark Krikorian is the 1996 House Sanchez-Dornan race. But clearly CIS failed to read the end of the story because The [Brennan Center](#) wrote with respect to that race “there are no reports of which we are aware that any noncitizens registered or voted knowing that they were ineligible.”

Still, the question remains why CIS keeps screaming "fire" when there isn't any smoke--let alone flames. As the nation struggles with a broken immigration system, CIS' work undermines the real thinking that needs to go into rational immigration reform.”

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