

Midlands lawmakers reactions to plan:

- Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb. - "Even though we have made progress in securing the border, we need to finish that job and repair the woefully inadequate legal immigration process before we move to an amnesty-based immigration system."
 - Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa - Called the proposal amnesty and "a pardon and reward for lawbreakers. ... Each one of these senators should wear a scarlet letter 'A' for amnesty."
 - Rep. Lee Terry, R-Neb. - "For any bill to pass the House, there will have to be greater emphasis on border security. ... The starter's gun has been shot, and now the race is on. I'm not going to get too excited about the first leg of this race."
 - Rep. Adrian Smith, R-Neb. - "I'm afraid that it does look more like amnesty than it looks like being accountable to the laws that we need to enforce."
 - Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb. - Is waiting to review final language on the bill before offering comment, an aide said.
 - Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa - Said he supports more legal channels for those who want to work in the United States, but also said that he refuses to repeat the mistake he made in 1986 when he voted for amnesty.

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