

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) met with community members in Auburn today to highlight steps he is taking in Congress to find a solution to the nation's growing immigration problem.

“The federal government has failed to act – leaving states and communities scrambling for short-term solutions.” **said Arcuri.** “We need a common-sense approach to immigration that includes patrolling our borders, preventing illegal activity, and upholding our laws. I am disappointed to see that the issue of immigration has become purely a political football, without real, substantive dialogue.”

Arcuri also announced his co-sponsorship of the Secure America with Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act, which will be introduced in the House of Representatives next week. The bill would: increase border patrol agents by 8,000; utilize new technology and infrastructure to secure the border; create a pilot program to increase aerial surveillance, satellite and equipment sharing between federal agencies; expand the federal E-Verify program, which provides employers with an inexpensive way to verify employee eligibility; and expedite the removal of illegal aliens by expanding detention capacity and increasing the number of Federal District Court Judges.

“I have long called for the President to bring our National Guard home to patrol the borders in an unarmed capacity and provide critical support for our border patrol officers. To ensure our borders are protected, I am a cosponsor the SAVE Act because it makes the critical investments we need to keep our country safe: adding customs and border patrol agents, utilizing new technology, and strengthening the existing federal employee verification program for businesses.”

The SAVE Act is strongly endorsed by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), a national small-business advocacy organization with members in all 50 states.

“Recently, there has been heated debate about the Governor's new license policy. I have serious concerns with his policy, and in its present form, I simply cannot support it. I have spoken with constituents across the 24th district and their opposition to the policy is overwhelming. Unfortunately, the Governor's plan is a band-aid, not a cure. It is time for real dialogue and a real, national solution to illegal immigration,” **said Arcuri.**

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