

THE REPATRIATE OUR PATRIOTS ACT

THEY SERVED OUR COUNTRY HONORABLY.
IT'S TIME TO BRING THEM HOME.

The Basics

- **What is it?** The Repatriate Our Patriots Act (H.R. _____), or ROPA seeks to prohibit the deportation of certain veterans and expedite their naturalization.
- **Why and how would a veteran get deported?** A veteran who is not a citizen can be deported after a conviction of any number of crimes, including non-violent offenses.
- **How can an illegal alien be a member of the U.S. military?** They cannot. To be a member of the military, a noncitizen must be a legal permanent resident.
- **Why aren't legal permanent residents given citizenship when they join the military?** While members of the military are eligible for expedited naturalization, many members either do not know how to go about this process or believe that they became citizens when they took their oath of service. In fact, some service members were told that they were citizens after they were honorably discharged.
- **Why should we bring back criminals who were deported?** Service members convicted of crimes and subsequently deported have proven their loyalty and allegiance to the United States by their willingness to fight and die for the country. At the time of deportation, they have often already served any sentence that accompanied their conviction and have paid their debt to society. Many of the service members that were deported were convicted of nonviolent crimes. ROPA does **NOT** provide for/disallow the deportation of veterans who were found to have committed murder, rape, sexual abuse, or another serious crime.
- **Does ROPA make the nation less safe?** Absolutely not. ROPA would not bring back any deported veterans who were found guilty of murder, rape, sexual abuse, or other serious crimes.
- **Why should I care about deported criminals?** Deported veterans who served honorably in the U.S. military are loyal and patriotic, for some of them this country is the only home they've known. If a veteran has been deported, then they have like served their time and paid their debt to society. Deportation in our view is a second punishment and sounds a lot like Double Jeopardy for someone who put their life on the line for our country.
- **What exactly does ROPA do?** ROPA would make it illegal, with few exceptions, to deport a noncitizen veteran. It would also expedite the return and naturalization of any veteran, who was not convicted of a serious crime, back to the U.S.