

### Executive Action News

- ✓ [Groups defend executive actions against states' lawsuit; judge may rule in favor of states](#) (Primary source [PS]: NBC)

Opponents of Obama's announced executive actions on immigration have sought to enjoin their implementation. However, the other side is also fighting back. On Monday, several groups, including the American Immigration Lawyers Association, filed an [amicus "friend of the court" brief](#) outlining the economic and social advantages of extending deferred action to undocumented immigrants.

The injunction hearing in the [lawsuit filed by Texas, Georgia and other states](#) will be [held January 9](#) at 10 a.m. CST. The judge, Andrew S. Hanen, was appointed by George W. Bush in 2002 and [might rule in favor of the states seeking to enjoin the executive actions](#). In his order in *US v. Nava-Martinez*, Hanen accused the DHS of helping complete smuggling conspiracies by delivering minors to the custody of parents illegally living in the United States (p. 3 of [final order](#); see also [Fox News Story](#) and [p. 9 of suit filed by states](#) claiming district court found that Obama Administration adopted a policy that encouraged child smuggling).

Last week, a federal judge rejected Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio's [lawsuit against executive action](#). At right is a [map](#) of the states suing Obama.



- ✓ [Getting the word out about executive actions could be a challenge; mayors step up](#) (PS: MSNBC)

Camille Mackler, director of legal initiatives at the New York Immigration Coalition, believes that while Latinos may have more information about the details of new executive actions, other groups may be less informed. Certain cultures may be better reached through religious leaders, and a one-size-fits-all approach will not work. In preparation for the work, NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio has created a [coalition of mayors \(Cities United for Immigration Action\)](#) to offer a place to swap tips on how to implement the executive actions. The [coalition includes](#) Mayor Kasim Reed of Atlanta and Mayor-Elect Muriel Bowser of Washington, DC.

- ✓ [Dalton highlights economic and social dynamics of immigration debate](#) (PS: WSJ)

Stung by enforcement raids, Dalton carpet manufacturers haven't reacted publicly to Mr. Obama's [announced executive actions on immigration](#), for which [Georgia is suing Obama](#). For years, work in carpet mills helped immigrants achieve "relative prosperity" and support local businesses. While Dalton's county (Whitfield) has not always been welcoming to immigrants, the town has been sympathetic to them. Here is a brief timeline of local dynamics.

- In 2008, Whitfield County joined a program that trained sheriff's deputies to ID and report the undocumented
- In 2011, both the city's leading mayoral candidates said they welcomed the area's immigrants.
- In 2013, Dalton Chamber of Commerce's exec. board endorsed a [bipartisan immigration bill](#) in the U.S. Senate

- ✓ [Majority favor Congress passing comprehensive immigration reform over executive action reversal](#) (PS: BSG)

According to a recent poll by Benenson Strategy Group, most Americans (69%) favor Congress passing comprehensive immigration reform (CIR) rather than forcing the president to reverse his executive actions. However, thirty-one percent believe Congress should do what it can to force the president to change or reverse his executive actions. These data can

be compared with a [Gallup poll](#) taken between 11/24/14 and 12/7/14, in which 41% of national adults “approved” or “strongly approved” of Obama’s executive actions whereas 51% “disapproved” or “strongly disapproved” of them. Regardless of public opinion, skeptics do not see CIR [passing anytime soon](#).

✓ [New enforcement priorities apparently trigger release of detainees](#) (PS: Breitbart)

ICE has reportedly instructed its field offices to ensure that immigrants should only remain in its custody if detention is consistent with [updated enforcement priorities](#). Detainees who might qualify for [DACA](#) or [DAPA](#) are also being identified for potential release. As of 12/27/14, 618 immigrants had been released as a result of the new priorities.

## Driver’s License News

### **Georgia**

✓ How SB 6 could make Georgia like Nebraska (PS: Georgia General Assembly)

State Senator Joshua McKoon has pre-filed [SB 6](#). If successful, SB 6 would make Georgia and Nebraska the only two states to deny DLs to youth who have been granted DACA. The bill could also prevent future deferred action recipients—parents and others under [Obama’s new policy](#)—from receiving driver’s licenses. This is the third attempt to take DLs from Georgia Dreamers. Lack of drivers licenses could negatively impact deferred action recipients’ ability to work, especially in Atlanta, [which has been ranked number 87 out of 100 cities](#) in terms of workers’ access to public transit.

### **Other states**

✓ [Arizona bill introduced requiring ‘non-citizen’ stamp on Dreamers’ licenses](#) (PS: Phoenix, CBS 5)

Now that Arizona is [required to issue drivers licenses to Dreamers](#), an Arizona state representative proposes to file a bill that will put “non-citizen” across the license of those who may receive deferred action under Barack Obama’s [new immigration policies](#). Some have equated this new effort with SB 1070, which, was at the time of its passage in 2010, perhaps the strictest anti-illegal immigration measure of any U.S. state. SB 1070’s impact was [considerably reduced by the US Supreme Court in June 2012](#) as parts of it were found to violate the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

✓ [California to issue DLs to undocumented](#) (PS: LA Times)

Beginning today, undocumented individuals in California will have the opportunity to obtain a driver’s license, as California becomes one of [10 states](#) to allow the undocumented to drive legally (green on map). The earliest pioneers for offering licenses to the undocumented were Utah (2005), New Mexico (2003), and Washington (1993)(see [link](#)), with the remainder implementing the change in 2013, 2014, and on January 1, 2015 (CT and CA). Oregon voters [recently rejected a law](#) granting driver’s licenses to the undocumented. Driver’s license rules across the country have been heavily impacted by the federal [Real ID Act](#), designed to keep terrorists from getting DLs.

