

FLORIDA SB 2040
LOURDES DEL RIO. TALAHASSEE, FLORIDA
PKG 2:03

The Senate President, Mike Haridopolos, has decided to postpone for tomorrow the vote on Senate Bill 2040. The bill, inspired by Arizona's controversial immigration law, was expected to come up for a vote today. More than 400 people mobilized in 9 buses to Tallahassee, departing earlier this morning from different cities throughout Central Florida. Whole families waited for the Senate vote outside of the Chambers, while groups of children, students and farm workers visited several Senators to share their stories, pray and ask them to vote against the bill.

UTAH IMMIGRATION LAWSUIT
VO :21

Two national organizations are suing Utah to halt a new immigration law they claim encourages racial profiling. The National Immigration Law Center argues legislation signed by Gov. Gary Herbert in March is just as unconstitutional as a similar Arizona law that is before the courts. The American Civil Liberties Union also joined the lawsuit filed Tuesday in federal court in Salt Lake City. The most controversial parts of Arizona's law are on hold pending a trial. They include a provision that would require police officers who are enforcing other laws to question the immigration status of those they suspect are in the country illegally.

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05/04/2011

ILLINOIS DREAM ACT TOMORROW
VO: 23

Illinois children with at least one immigrant parent may become eligible for a privately-funded college scholarship even if they are in the state illegally. The Senate passed legislation 45-11 Wednesday that would enable children of immigrants to draw from a new scholarship called the Illinois DREAM Fund. All no votes came from Republicans, although many supported the legislation. The bill now heads to the House. The bill also will allow illegal immigrants to participate in the state college savings program. Currently, people must be United States citizens to qualify for the savings program. Students must already be employed and enrolled in college to qualify for the scholarship. The state would appoint commissioners to raise and distribute private funds for the scholarship. About 95,000 people would currently be eligible for the program.

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05/05/2011

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT VOTE

VO: 20

College students who entered the country illegally appear closer than ever to receiving financial aid in California. On a party-line vote of 51-21, the state Assembly approved a bill Thursday that allows those students to collect privately-funded college scholarships. Assemblyman Gil Cedillo, a Democrat from Los Angeles and the author of AB130, has introduced a similar bill every year since 2005. Former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, a Republican, vetoed the legislation repeatedly, but Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown made a campaign pledge to sign it. Dozens of Democrats in the Assembly spoke in support of the bill, arguing that students should not be punished because their parents brought them into the country illegally. They said immigrant labor makes comfortable, middle-class standards of living possible and that California should reward skilled and educated immigrants.

R: SB 2040 FLORIDA

LOURDES DEL RIO - TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

PKG: 2:28

Florida SB 2040 Passes in Florida. In a surprise move, the Senate voted on the immigration bill SB 2040. Without debate, the Florida Senate unexpectedly voted Wednesday morning 23-16 to approve SB 2040, a controversial immigration crackdown bill. The measure looked dead late Tuesday after Senators shot down an amendment that would have made the bill tougher by pushing for a broader use of the federal government's E-Verify system to check the immigration status of workers. Dozens of immigration activists were ordered to leave the state Capitol building for violating an order by the Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Severance to not engage in any singing while sitting in the Senate's visitors gallery. The activists and immigrants, wearing matching orange "We Are Florida" T-shirts, began singing immediately after the vote

DEBATE HB-12 TEXAS PREVIEW

VO: 22

The rule of law is the foundation of our society, and enforcing it is the responsibility of local police forces. Legislation that threatens to diminish my ability as police chief to protect the community I serve should be of great concern not just to me but also to the 25 million residents of Texas. One policy that has been quickly progressing during the legislative session addresses what I consider an unsubstantiated belief that some Texas cities are "sanctuary cities" that purposely harbor undocumented immigrants. Some feel that authorities in such cities are complicit in protecting undocumented immigrants from deportation.

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05/06/2011

FLORIDA IMMIGRATION LAW LOURDES DEL RIO - MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG: 2:00

The fierce fight to crack down on illegal immigration ended - for this year - in the Florida Legislature on Friday when House and Senate lawmakers reached the end of the 60-day session without an agreement. State senators signed off on their more lenient proposal on Wednesday. But by then, it was too late for the House to take up the measure. On Friday, Gov. Rick Scott told a Fox-affiliated radio station in the Florida Panhandle that lawmakers should have passed an immigration bill - but there's always next year. "We've got the next session, Scott said in an appearance on "Freedom in the Morning with Wolfe and Andi."

TEXAS VOTACION HB 12

VO: 18

House Democrats temporarily derailed a key GOP-backed plan Friday night that aimed to crack down on illegal immigration in Texas by requiring local police to enforce federal immigration laws. After more than three hours of heated debate, the measure was pulled from consideration because of a procedural error. Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, D-San Antonio, raised a point of order over a mistake made on a witness affirmation form when testimony was taken in the House State Affairs Committee. The point of order effectively knocked the bill back into committee. The bill by Rep. Burt Solomons, R-Carrollton, would prohibit cities from adopting policies that stop law enforcement from asking about immigration status.

UNEMPLOYMENT NATIONAL

VO: 23

It's not just McJobs. April employment numbers make it clear the U.S. economy is generating high-skilled positions across a number of sectors. "There are literally thousands of very high quality jobs that are being created across the country, in technology and financial services and in manufacturing," said Scot Melland, president and CEO of Dice.com, a career site and job board for technology and engineering professionals based in New York. One problem: the sectors offering the highest pay represent just a small sliver of the overall job market. Their growth alone does little to alleviate the nation's massive and persistent unemployment problem.

US ECONOMY GAS PRICES

VO: 15

A brightened outlook for job growth may dim this spring as rising gas prices weigh on companies and prompt some to rethink their hiring plans. Analysts' consensus forecast is that the economy added 185,000 jobs in April and that the unemployment rate remained at a two-year low of 8.8 percent. That would be down from the 216,000 jobs added in March but still solid. Still, just a few weeks ago economists were confident that private

companies would add more than 200,000 jobs for the third straight month. Some now worry that the job figures could be weaker than expected, based on the most recent economic data. "There are risks out there that job growth could slow sharply," said economist Chris Rupkey at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ. For now, Rupkey is sticking with his forecast that a net total of 170,000 jobs were created in April. He predicts that private employers added fewer than 200,000 jobs, while local governments shed positions.

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05/09/2011

**OBAMA IMMIGRATION
LUIS MEGID. EL PASO, TEXAS**

PKG 2:09

President Obama kicks off his immigration reform tour on Tuesday in Texas to outline a plan to secure the border while providing a path to citizenship for some undocumented immigrants. This is a worthy debate at risk of becoming a partisan polemic. There is no evidence that Republicans and Democrats are even close to passing something resembling comprehensive immigration reform. If the president wants to kick-start immigration reform both parties can support, he should launch his campaign in Silicon Valley, or Boston, or the Dulles corridor in northern Virginia.

**SB 1070
VICTOR HUGO RODRIGUEZ. PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

PKG 2:02

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer announced Monday she will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn a ruling that put the most controversial parts of the state's immigration enforcement law on hold. The planned appeal to the high court comes after Brewer lost an appeal April 11, when a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals refused to reverse a lower court's order that prevented key parts of the law from being enforced. The panel said federal officials were likely to prove the law is unconstitutional and succeed in their argument that Congress has given the federal government sole authority to enforce immigration laws.

**TEXAS GUNS ON CAMPUS
VO :18**

Republicans in the Texas Senate on Monday approved allowing concealed handgun license holders to carry weapons into public college buildings and classrooms, moving forward on a measure that had stalled until supporters tacked it on to a universities spending bill. Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, had been unable to muster the votes he needed under Senate rules to pass the issue as its own bill after the measure met stiff resistance from higher education officials, notably from within the University of Texas

system.

FORD F-150 RECALL

VO :25

U.S. safety regulators are investigating a fuel tank problem that could affect more than 2.7 million Ford F-150 pickup trucks. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said today that the steel straps holding up the truck's gas tank can rust and break, possibly causing a fuel spill and fire. No injuries have been reported from the possible defect. The agency is looking into trucks from the 1997 through 2001 model years. NHTSA's investigations often lead to recalls.

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05/10/2011

OBAMA IMMIGRATION

MARTIN BERLANGA. SATELLITE ROOM

PKG 2:12

Describing the border with Mexico as more secure than ever, President Barack Obama says Republicans who insisted on tougher enforcement should now be ready to move on and deal with comprehensive immigration reform. But instead, he says they're still demanding more. In a speech in Texas along the border today, Obama pointed to an increase in border agents, and the near-completion of a border fence. And he said more cargo is being screened. But he said Republicans will "never be satisfied." Obama is pushing for legislation offering a pathway to citizenship to the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants -- amid opposition from majority Republicans in the House. He's trying to convince Hispanic voters that he's not the one standing in the way of immigration reform.

TEXAS SANCTUARY CITIES

VO :20

After taking the unusual and controversial strategy of cutting off debate, the Texas House late Monday voted 99 to 47 in favor of a ban on "sanctuary cities," despite objections that the measure was unnecessary and will increase racial profiling against Hispanics. House Republicans voted to end debate by calling for an immediate vote on the bill, shutting down debate on amendments after four hours of sometimes heated discussion. Democrats roundly criticized the tactic almost as emotionally as the underlying legislation, and faulted House Speaker Joe Straus for allowing the maneuver

UTAH IMMIGRATION LAW

SALVADOR DURAN. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

PKG 2:16

People arrested for serious crimes in Utah will be required to prove their citizenship -- and those stopped for minor offenses may be too -- under a new immigration law that

took effect Tuesday. But it may be short-lived. Civil rights groups are seeking to block the law on constitutional grounds, and a judge will consider whether to halt its enforcement at a hearing set for Tuesday afternoon. The law, signed by Republican Gov. Gary Herbert in March, requires police to check the citizenship status of anyone arrested for a felony or class-A misdemeanor, while giving them discretion to check the citizenship of those stopped for traffic infractions and other lesser offenses. Class A misdemeanors include theft, negligent homicide and criminal mischief, while felonies range from aggravated burglary to rape and murder. Civil rights attorneys spent much of Monday trying to persuade state officials to voluntarily delay the law's implementation. U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups has a hearing scheduled in Salt Lake City where he could decide to halt enforcement of all or some of the law.

CELLPHONE ALERT SYSTEM ANNOUNCED IN NYC

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ. NEW YORK

PKG 2:05

New York City will launch a new national emergency alert system by the end of the year that will send messages to cellphones during disasters. Mayor Michael Bloomberg made the announcement Tuesday at a news conference overlooking the World Trade Center site. He says the new technology will give the public clear and accurate information about imminent safety threats. The mayor says it will be geographically targeted and send messages to all cellphone users. He was joined by FCC Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski, as well as federal and local officials. The alert plan was approved by Congress in 2006 under the Warning Alert and Response Network Act. The system also will be launched in Washington by the end of the year.

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05/11/2011

DREAM ACT LATEST

MARTIN BERLANGA - MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG: 2:01

Senate Democrats including majority leader Harry Reid are to revive the long-stalled DREAM act proposal to ease immigration to the United States, the politicians said Tuesday in a statement. The bill would allow a 'select group' of foreign students 'with great potential to contribute more fully to America,' they said. A formal announcement is to be made Wednesday. The move came just hours after President Barack Obama, a fellow Democrat, called for reform of the US immigration system as he stood on the US-Mexican border. He demanded that Congress act on the long-simmering issue.

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05/12/2011

CHRYSLER 3,000 JOBS

VO: 20

One thousand of the jobs could be added as a third shift at their Sterling Heights Assembly Plant. That plant, known as SHAP, builds the Dodge Avenger and the Chrysler 200. Workers at the plant say that there has been talk for weeks of adding a third shift. Martell Greer, a worker at SHAP, said Thursday, "That would be great for the area, for the state and for me and my family." The other two plants in line for third shifts are Detroit's Jefferson North, which builds the Grand Cherokee and Dodge Durango and a plant that builds small Jeeps in Belvidere, IL. SHAP is currently building a new paint shop. The plant had been slated to close when Chrysler went through bankruptcy. Workers there say that this may mean longevity for the facility. "We see investment. Investment and great products mean that we are going to be alright," said SHAP worker Randy Jenkins.

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05/13/2011

**GEORGIA IMMIGRATION LAW
GUSTAVO VALDES - ATLANTA, GEORGIA
PKG: 2:07**

Georgia's Republican governor signed Friday a tough new state law cracking down on illegal immigrants that is similar to one enacted in Arizona last year, handing new powers to police in the southern U.S. state. The law authorizes police in Georgia to investigate the immigration status of criminal suspects they think may be in the country illegally. It also requires many private employers to check the immigration status of newly hired workers on a federal database called E-Verify. Enforcement of U.S. immigration laws traditionally is handled by federal, not state, authorities. The Georgia measure is the latest to gain favor among Republicans at the state level who accuse Democratic President Barack Obama and the federal government of failing to stem illegal immigration.

**LOTTERY VISAS MISTAKE
VO: 22**

A computer glitch corrupted the State Department's annual worldwide lottery for U.S. immigrant visas and the results will be scratched, the Obama administration said Friday, disappointing tens of thousands of would-be immigrants who were notified this year that they had won a chance to come and live legally in the United States. Nearly 15 million people had entered the 2012 lottery hoping to win one of 50,000 U.S. immigrant visas available under a wild-card program for people who otherwise would have little hope of getting a coveted U.S. visa. Applicants for the random drawing do not have to have the usual family or employer sponsor. The lottery selects 90,000 winners, a total that is then winnowed down through attrition, interviews and strict educational and occupational criteria.

===END OF PART 1===

Direct: (305) 640-3716 | rsilva-nazario@univision.net | <http://www.univision.com>

