



Obama Proposes New Path to Citizenship

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Staff Writer

From education to taxes to crime rates, due to its profound effects on many aspects of the country's well-being, a number of different proposals and bills concerning the U.S.' immigration policies have been considered to resolve the issue.

"Right now, leaders from business, labor, law enforcement and faith communities all agree that the time has come to pass comprehensive immigration reform," President Barack Obama said in his State of the Union address.

A leaked draft of a White House immigration bill garnered particular attention this past February. The proposed bill would seek to provide undocumented immigrants with a three-phase path towards American citizenship and all of its associated benefits and responsibilities. Undocumented immigrants would first apply for "Lawful Prospective Immigrant Status" to allow them the privilege of work and travel outside

the U.S. with certain restrictions. This status would not allow such individuals to receive any financial aid, grants, assistance, or other government benefit offered by the U.S.

Once the status as a prospective immigrant is achieved, such immigrants will have to wait eight years before receiving a green card, which grants

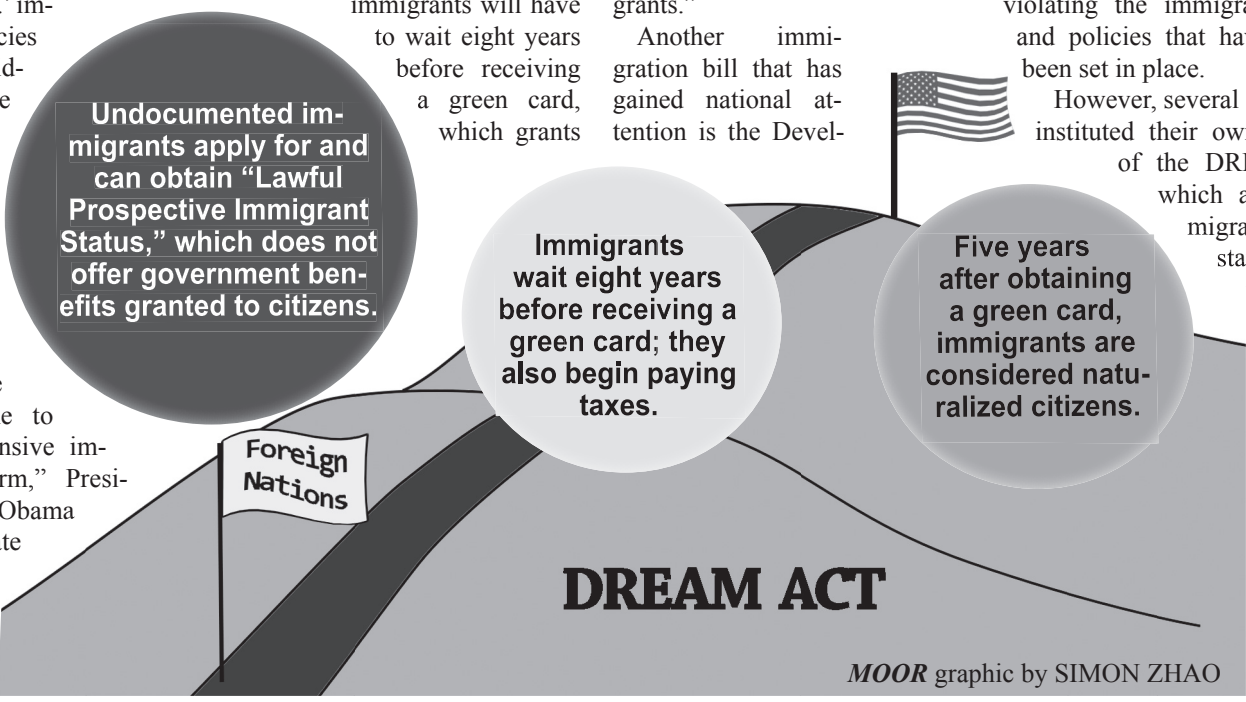
immigrant, undocumented immigrants with no criminal backgrounds should also be able to apply for citizenship," senior Austin Zhao said. "The United States has other concerns to address, [but] by dealing with this, we can get tax revenue from working immigrants."

Another immigration bill that has gained national attention is the Devel-

in 2001 but was reintroduced in 2009 and 2011, failing again both times. Opponents of the DREAM Act contended that the act was too costly for the U.S. government to handle. They also said that passing the DREAM Act would essentially reward individuals for violating the immigration laws and policies that have already been set in place.

However, several states have instituted their own versions of the DREAM Act, which allows immigrants in their states access to government aid with regard to university tuition prices and financial aid. California is among these states, having signed its own version of the DREAM Act in 2011.

Although the debate on immigration is still ongoing, the recent budget dispute in Washington has put the issue of immigration reform on shakier grounds. Politicians in Washington will continue to argue the specifics on how to deal with undocumented immigrants and their ability to become U.S. citizens.



MOOR graphic by SIMON ZHAO

them legal permanent residence in the U.S. During this time, prospective immigrants must pay taxes, prove that they are pursuing approved courses of study in English and U.S. History and renew their legal status every four years. After obtaining a green card, immigrants typically wait another five years before becoming naturalized citizens.

"Although I am a documented

oment, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. Originally introduced in 2001, the DREAM Act sought to provide immigrant children who graduate from U.S. high schools the opportunity to attain permanent residency by acquiring a bachelor's degree or higher, or by serving in the armed forces for at least two years.

The DREAM Act failed to pass

Meet New Mayor Steven Placido

DIANA LI
News Editor

On Feb. 25, Dr. Steven Placido was sworn into office as mayor; alongside him was Stephen Sham, who was sworn in as vice mayor.

Placido, a family dentist, has long records of civic and community involvement. He previously served as the mayor of Alhambra from 2005 to 2006 and 2009 to 2010. In addition, Placido was also a former Planning Commissioner from 1997 to 2004. He is currently on numerous community boards, such as the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce and the Alhambra Rotary Club.

Under the Alhambra City Charter, council members rotate key city positions every nine months. Thus, Placido took over Councilwoman Barbara Messina's position as mayor, while Sham replaced Placido as vice mayor. The council's mission statement asserts that the city is "dedicated to responsive, creative leadership and quality services, ensuring desirable neighborhoods and a supportive business environment, while being sensitive to the diversity of our community," according to the City of Alhambra's website.

"Council isn't here to just serve adults; it's here to serve everyone," Placido said.

NEWS BRIEF

Talent Tuesday: Highlighting the Abilities of AHS Students



ALHAMBRA'S GOT TALENT Tracey Robles, John Chen and Sydney Mai showed off their "mad skills" in the first ever Talent Tuesday, hosted by ASB. MOOR photos and montage by JOYCE TSUI

DENISE TIEU
Staff Writer

Among the new events and games presented during lunch time at AHS are Talent Tuesdays. As the name suggests, students showcase their talents on the first Tuesday of the month.

"Talent Tuesdays [were] created to expose the talents of our student body. This will allow students to step out of their comfort zone and show off their special skills, [and it] will allow other students to see behind the stereotypes and see a whole other side of their

classmates. It's for those who want to express themselves," Director of Performing Arts Jackie Hua said.

Talents can range from yo-yoing to rapping, since the purpose of Talent Tuesdays is to encourage everybody and anybody to enjoy themselves and showcase their capabilities. Rather than focusing on competition, Talent Tuesdays are meant to be friendly, interactive events.

"It's [an] opportunity to show off your talent during lunch in front of your friends. There's also no need to feel that there's competition for

those who are afraid to lose. There is [only] the great feeling of performing what you love," Hua said.

Numerous students have reacted positively to the creation of an event specifically made for demonstrating talents.

"Talent Tuesdays [sound] pretty cool because students that you normally see roaming around school [...] have talents that you wouldn't know about otherwise," sophomore Stephanie Wong Su said. "Seeing all these talents from peers and classmates [seems] very interesting."

PREVIEWS

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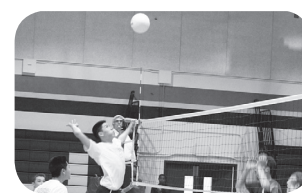
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SPORTS Read about the boys' varsity volleyball game against San Marino.