



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

*Hand-delivered on House
Floor to Paul Ryan @
approx 4PM, 10/22/15*

October 22, 2015

*Paul Ryan called Mo + confirmed
accuracy of letter via phone @ 5:20PM. (during staff meeting)*

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman, Ways & Means Committee
(Hand-Delivered)

RE: Immigration Positions & Speaker Race

Paul:

Struggling American families have lost more than 8 million job opportunities to illegal aliens. All lower and middle income American workers have suffered from suppressed wages caused by the surge in both illegal alien and lawful immigrant labor supply.

Your past record and current stance on immigration conflicts with the values of the Americans I represent and causes great concern to me and the Americans I represent.

Yesterday during discussions about the Speaker race, you made two representations about immigration that stood out. They are:

1. It is unwise or unproductive to bring up any immigration legislation so long as Barack Obama is President.
2. As Speaker, you will not allow any immigration bill to reach the House Floor for a vote unless the immigration bill is "supported by a majority of the majority" of Republican House Members.

Although you talk faster than I can write your words down, I believe the above statements properly reflect what you said. I send this letter to confirm that I accurately portray your remarks and that I may rely on them when the House Floor Vote for Speaker occurs next week.

If my portrayal of your words errs in any respect, please deliver to me (before the GOP Conference meeting next week in which we are to conduct Speaker elections) a written communication correcting my errors.

If I do not receive such a communication from you, then I will infer that you concur that my portrayal of your remarks is accurate and that I, and the rest of the GOP Conference, and the American people, may rely on your words as I have written them.

I need your assurance that you will not use the Speaker's position to advance your immigration policies, except when in accord with the two above statements, because there is a huge gap between your immigration position and the wishes of the American citizens I represent. Your words yesterday constitute the needed assurance.

If your assurances as I have portrayed them are accurate, then I am much more comfortable voting for you for Speaker on the House Floor (and will do so, absence something startling coming to my attention between now and the election, which I don't anticipate).

If, however, you would use the Speaker's chair to advance an immigration belief system that is unacceptable to the Americans I represent, it will be very difficult for me to vote for you for Speaker on the House Floor.

To be clear, I intend to publicly share this letter and your responding letter, if any, to help explain to my constituents why I voted as I did on the House Floor in the Speaker's election.

Thank you for considering the contents of this letter.

Sincerely,

Morris J. "Mo" Brooks, Jr., M.C., AL-5