

Teresa Benitez-Thompson Gave Driver's Licenses And In-State Tuition To Illegal Immigrants, Restricted Immigration Enforcement, Mailed Ballots To Every Name On The Voter Rolls, And Opposed Proof Of Citizenship To Vote. Open Borders. Weak Elections.

Benitez-Thompson Sponsored SB 303 Which Allowed Undocumented Immigrants To Obtain Driver's Licenses And Prohibited "The Release Of Information Relating To Legal Status For Purposes Relating To The Enforcement Of Immigration Laws"

Benitez-Thompson Sponsored SB 303. "AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; providing for the issuance of a driver authorization card; establishing the contents of an application for a driver authorization card and certain instruction permits; establishing the information that must be contained on a driver authorization card and similarly obtained instruction permits; providing for the expiration and renewal of a driver authorization card; providing that certain provisions of state law which apply to drivers' licenses also apply to a driver authorization card and similarly obtained instruction permits; making an appropriation; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. Senate Bill No. 303 — Senators Denis, Kihuen, Roberson, Ford, Segerblom; Atkinson, Hammond, Hardy, Hutchison, Jones, Manendo, Parks, Smith, Spearman and Woodhouse. Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Bustamante Adams, Diaz, Flores, Elliot Anderson, Spiegel; Aizley, Benitez-Thompson, Bobzien, Dondero Loop, Eisen, Frierson, Hickey, Kirkpatrick, Munford, Neal and Pierce. Approved May 31, 2013." ("Statutes of the State of Nevada - Seventy-Seventh Session, 2013," [Nevada Legislature](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

SB 303 Reportedly "Allow[ed] People Who Are Not In The Country Legally To Acquire Driver Authorization Cards." "A bill allowing people who are not in the country legally to acquire driver authorization cards is on its way to Gov. Brian Sandoval. The Assembly voted 30-9 on Monday to approve state Senate Bill 303, which would require residents living illegally in Nevada to pass a driving test before they could acquire a card. Sandoval is expected to sign the measure into law, following Utah, New Mexico and two other states that allow people who are not in the United States legally to drive." (Sean Whaley, "ID For Non-Citizen Drivers Approved By Nevada Lawmakers," [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#), 5/28/13)

SB 303 Prohibited "The Release Of Information Relating To Legal Status For Purposes Relating To The Enforcement Of Immigration Laws." "This law creates a driver's authorization card and allows applicants, regardless of legal status, to provide birth certificates or passports issued by a foreign country as proof of identity. This law also prohibits the release of information relating to legal status for purposes relating to the enforcement of immigration laws." ("States Offering Driver's Licenses To Immigrants," [National Conference Of State Legislatures](#), 3/13/23)

According To The National Conference Of State Legislatures, Nevada Is Among The States That Have "Enacted Laws To Allow Unauthorized Immigrants To Obtain Driver's Licenses." "States issue driver's licenses under the constitutional authority of the 10th Amendment. Congress enacted Real ID in 2005, creating standards for state-issued driver's licenses, including evidence of lawful status. This brief provides a summary of state legislation authorizing driver's licenses or authorization cards for unauthorized immigrants. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws to allow unauthorized immigrants to obtain driver's licenses. These states—California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Washington—issue a license if an applicant provides certain documentation, such as a foreign birth certificate, foreign passport, or consular card and evidence of current residency in the state. In 2022, Rhode Island enacted legislation extending driver's licenses and identification cards to those without proof of lawful presence (SB 2006/HB 7939). In addition to Rhode Island, the Massachusetts legislature overrode the Governor's veto of their bill allowing those without proof of lawful presence to obtain driver's licenses (SB 4822/HB 4805). In the 2022 midterm election, Massachusetts voters were asked via ballot measure (Q4) whether the state should keep or repeal the

new immigrant driver's license law, and voters ultimately elected to uphold it. In 2023, Minnesota became the most recent state to enact legislation allowing individuals to get driver's licenses without proof of lawful presence (HB 4/SB 27)." ("States Offering Driver's Licenses To Immigrants," [National Conference Of State Legislatures](#), 3/13/23)

In 2021, Benitez-Thompson Voted For AB 376 Which Directed Nevada's Attorney General To Develop Policies To "Limit ... The Engagement Of State Or Local Law Enforcement Agencies With Federal Immigration Authorities For The Purpose Of Immigration Enforcement"

On May 26, 2021, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea On AB 376. "An act relating to immigration; enacting the Keep Nevada Working Act; creating the Keep Nevada Working Task Force and establishing the power and duties of the Task Force; requiring the Attorney General to publish model policies relating to immigration; requiring state and local law enforcement agencies, public schools, institutions of higher education, health care facilities and courthouses to take certain actions relating to the model policies published by the Attorney General; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto." (AB 376, [Final Passage](#): Passed 25-16, 5/26/21, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea; [Nevada Legislature Summary](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

Section 20.6 Of AB 376 Directed Nevada's Attorney General To Develop Policies To "Limit ... The Engagement Of State Or Local Law Enforcement Agencies With Federal Immigration Authorities For The Purpose Of Immigration Enforcement." "1. The Attorney General shall, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and the Keep Nevada Working Task Force created by section 18 of this act, publish model policies which provide guidance and training recommendations to state or local law enforcement agencies. The model policies must prioritize guidance and training recommendations which: (a) Foster trust between the community and state or local law enforcement agencies; and (b) Limit, to the fullest extent practicable and consistent with any applicable law, the engagement of state or local law enforcement agencies with federal immigration authorities for the purpose of immigration enforcement." (AB 376, [Nevada Legislature](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

In 2021, Benitez-Thompon Voted For SB 347 Which Granted In-State Tuition To Certain Undocumented Immigrants

On May 31, 2021, Benitez-Thompon Voted Yea On SB 347. "AN ACT relating to higher education; creating the Task Force on Sexual Misconduct at Institutions of Higher Education; prescribing the membership, duties and compensation of the Task Force; authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to appoint researchers to develop a climate survey on sexual misconduct; authorizing the Board of Regents to require the institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education to administer the climate survey to students; authorizing the imposition of additional requirements for the grievance process at an institution within the System; authorizing the Board of Regents to require each institution within the System to adopt a policy on sexual misconduct, enter into a memorandum of understanding with certain organizations and designate an advocate; prohibiting an institution within the System from imposing certain sanctions on certain students; authorizing the Board of Regents to require an institution within the System to take certain actions regarding a report of an alleged incident of sexual misconduct; providing for certain training and programming related to sexual misconduct; authorizing a student who has experienced sexual misconduct to request a waiver from certain requirements of scholarships or academic activities; authorizing the Board of Regents to require an annual report from institutions within the System on certain information relating to sexual misconduct; authorizing the Board of Regents to adopt regulations; making certain information relating to incidents of sexual misconduct confidential; revising provisions relating to tuition charges; revising requirements relating to certain scholarships and grants; and providing other matters properly relating thereto." (SB 347, [Final Passage](#): Passed 28-14, 5/31/21, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea; [Nevada Legislature Summary](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

According To Higher Ed Immigration Portal, SB 347 "Allows Certain Undocumented Students, Including DACA Recipients, Living In Nevada To Access In-State Tuition."

“Nevada’s Senate Bill (S.B.) 347, which went into effect on July 1, 2021, allows certain undocumented students, including DACA recipients, living in Nevada to access in-state tuition. Undocumented students must meet certain requirements to qualify for in-state tuition, namely: Graduate from a high school located in Nevada, regardless of whether the student or the student’s family are considered ‘bona fide’ residents. S.B.347 prohibits the Nevada System of Higher Education’s Board of Regents from charging out-of-state tuition to Nevada students who meet this requirement, including the state’s undocumented students. Before the passage of S.B. 347 in 2021, the Board of Regents permitted institutions to grant eligible undocumented students, including DACA recipients, access to in-state tuition.” (“Nevada,” [Higher Ed Immigration Portal](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

In 2021, Benitez-Thompson Voted For AB 321 Established That “All Registered Voters Will Receive A Ballot By Mail”

On May 26, 2021, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea On AB 321. “AN ACT relating to elections; establishing procedures for the use of mail ballots in every election; establishing various requirements relating to mail ballots; revising the requirements for signature verification of mail ballots; revising the deadline to submit a request for the establishment of a polling place within an Indian reservation or Indian colony for an election; revising the personal data that may be requested if a voter’s signature is challenged at the polls; requiring the Secretary of State to enter into a cooperative agreement with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics to obtain certain information relating to the statewide voter registration list; authorizing a county clerk, city clerk or registrar of voters and deputies thereof charged with powers and duties relating to elections to request certain personal information be maintained in a confidential manner; revising provisions relating to the withdrawal of a petition for initiative or referendum; repealing provisions related to absent ballots, mailing ballots and affected elections; providing a penalty; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.” (AB 321, [Final Passage](#): Passed 25-16, 5/26/21, Benitez-Thompson Voted Yea; [Nevada Legislature Summary](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

AB 321 Established That “All Registered Voters Will Receive A Ballot By Mail.” “With the passage of Assembly Bill 321 during the 2021 Legislative Session, all registered voters will receive a ballot by mail. You can request to opt-out by submitting this form [English], [Spanish], or [Filipino] to your county clerk.” (“Mail Ballot Voting,” Nevada Secretary Of State, Accessed 10/11/26)

Benitez-Thompson Has Opposed Requiring “Individuals To Provide Documentary Proof Of U.S. Citizenship In Order To Register To Vote In Federal Elections”

Benitez-Thompson’s Website States Her Opposition To The SAVE Act. “American democracy is under pressure from three directions: foreign interference, Trump’s voter suppression efforts, and the corrosive effect of unlimited money in politics. Free, fair, accessible elections are the foundation of American democracy — and Congress has a direct and urgent obligation to protect them. That means opposing the SAVE Act and every other effort to institute onerous barriers to voter registration. It means expanding, not restricting, mail voting and early voting. It means modernizing election infrastructure and investing in cybersecurity. And it means passing the For the People Act framework — automatic voter registration, same-day registration, redistricting reform, and campaign finance disclosure — because that is the package voters actually want and allows the most eligible people to participate in the process.” (“Policy,” [Teresa Benitez-Thompson For Congress](#), Accessed 10/11/26)

The SAVE Act “Requires Individuals To Provide Documentary Proof Of U.S. Citizenship In Order To Register To Vote In Federal Elections.” “This bill requires individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. citizenship in order to register to vote in federal elections. Specifically, the bill prohibits states from accepting and processing an application to register to vote in a federal election unless the applicant presents documentary proof of U.S. citizenship. Further, the bill (1) prohibits states from registering an individual to vote in a federal election unless, at the time the individual applies to register to vote, the individual provides documentary proof of U.S. citizenship; and (2) requires states to establish an alternative process under which an applicant may submit other

evidence to demonstrate U.S. citizenship. Each state must take affirmative steps on an ongoing basis to ensure that only U.S. citizens are registered to vote, which shall include establishing a program to identify individuals who are not U.S. citizens using information supplied by specified sources. Additionally, the bill requires states to remove noncitizens from their official lists of eligible voters. The bill allows for a private right of action against an election official who registers an applicant to vote in a federal election who fails to present documentary proof of U.S. citizenship. The bill establishes criminal penalties for certain offenses, including registering an applicant to vote in a federal election who fails to present documentary proof of U.S. citizenship. The Election Assistance Commission must, within 10 days, adopt and transmit guidance for implementing the bill's requirements to chief state election officials.” (H.R. 8281, [United States Congress](#), Accessed 10/11/26)