

THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



Wicker Opposes Democrat Proposal to Eliminate ICE

Agency Plays a Critical Role in Protecting Americans From Terrorism, Organized Crime

What would happen without U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement? Some Democrats in Congress are willing to find out, recently pitching an ill-conceived bill to abolish the federal agency that is responsible for upholding our country's immigration and customs laws.

Thankfully, this radical effort was strongly rejected by Republicans in Congress, who responded with Senate and House resolutions supporting the necessary and often dangerous work of ICE officers. I cosponsored the Senate resolution, which Democrats have temporarily blocked from even getting a

vote. In the House, the measure defending ICE passed by a vote of 244-35, with 133 Democrats merely voting "Present."

It is ridiculous to think that our country is better off without immigration enforcement. In addition to curbing illegal immigration, ICE fights against terrorism, organized crime, and human smuggling. The agency is a critical piece of our national security strategy, preventing criminals and terrorists from crossing our borders and using our country to move illicit weapons and goods.

127,000 Arrests of Criminals Living Illegally in the U.S.

Termination of ICE would come with significant risks to public safety. The elimination of a law enforcement agency is not the answer to political disagreements about immigration law.

The numbers speak for themselves when it comes to ICE's role in keeping our communities safe. The agency was responsible for the arrest of 127,000 illegal immigrants with criminal records during Fiscal Year 2017. The crimes associated with those arrested included serious drug and assault offenses, hardly minor violations of the law. That same year, ICE arrested nearly 5,000 gang members and saved more than 1,400 victims of human trafficking.

As the opioid crisis continues to take American lives, the work that ICE does to stop drug rings and confiscate narcotics is still urgent. Earlier this year, ICE was part of a major investigation into a Mississippi-based

criminal organization that led to 11 indictments for the smuggling and trafficking of drugs from Mexico.

Fulfilling Its Mission to Keep Citizens Safe

It is important to remember the circumstances under which ICE was created in 2003. Terrorists had attacked New York and Washington just two years before, and our nation needed a better way to guard against the entry of dangerous individuals who want to do us harm. Fifteen years later, our nation is safer because of the men and women at ICE.

Challenges to border security still exist. ICE's detainment and deportation of illegal migrants may get the most public attention, and Congress should address these challenges with appropriate reforms. But the answer is not to open our borders and abdicate the government's responsibility to keep its citizens safe.



By Gary Miller

Even though it's still summer, the deer hunters are getting prepared for another season. While it may be a few weeks until the season opens, there is much to do in order to be ready for opening day – especially if you hunt with a bow. Right now I'm checking trail cameras, hanging tree stands and trying to figure out where the deer are likely to be early in the season. And it is not always where one might think.

I am reminded of an Alabama hunt several years ago. I was with a friend on a piece of property which was owned by a rancher who not only raised cattle but managed for quality deer. It really was a beautiful place and just riding around on it caused me to get extremely excited about the possibilities. That afternoon would be our first hunt, so the rancher "carried us" (that's Alabama vernacular for drive us) to the stands where we would hunt. As we passed through the pasture he pointed to one lone cedar tree about 200 yards from a wood line and said, "Somebody needs to sit right there." My partner and I silently wondered where exactly he was talking about. And then he said, "See that blue milk crate? Sit on it and lean up against that cedar tree." Now this was not exactly the place where either of us imagined we would spend our time hunting. After all, it didn't look like or feel like it had any possibility whatsoever of producing anything but shade for an afternoon nap. I was expecting my tree stand to be labeled

Lone Wolf or something, but this one said Mayfield Dairy. After debating on which one of us would have this honor, my friend drew the short straw and jumped out of the truck (boy was I relieved!). That evening he killed a giant 11 pointer. Who would've ever "thunk" it? The moral of the story: It is better to take the word of the rancher than to go to with what feels or looks good. Period! I wished we would focus more on that same truth in our experience with God. Let me ask you something. Do you have to feel the presence of God to know He's there? Or are you satisfied with His simple word that says, "I will never leave you or forsake you?" Do you need to see some manifestation of His workings to believe He is at work? Or can you simply believe His word when He says, "I am working all things for your good?" On Sunday morning as you sit in church, do you base the quality of your experience on what you may have felt or seen? Or do you understand that true faith simply believes His word, sometimes without any emotions whatsoever? Your answers to these questions will expose the depth of your faith. Is God's word good enough, or does it need to be scotched up with something that appeals to the senses. I hope you are a man or woman who will simply take God at His word and get out of the truck even when it seems He is placing you on a milk crate.

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28th July

ACROSS

- 1 __ marketing
- 5 Catches
- 9 "The Light __ Failed"
- 13 Followers of: suffix
- 17 Cash for cards
- 18 Aching feeling
- 19 United Kingdom's neighbor
- 20 Stem joint
- 21 Heated milk's top surface
- 22 Gotham's Robin
- 24 Goalie's domain
- 25 Mr. Miyagi's forte
- 27 Feeling
- 28 Pirate ship
- 30 Informed
- 32 Postage follower
- 33 Gold leaf's kin
- 34 Light on a stove
- 37 Work of art
- 39 San Francisco

sight

- 43 Bakery help
- 44 Barter
- 45 Bread or double preceder
- 46 " __ Boy" ("Bye Bye Birdie" song)
- 47 Unwavering
- 49 Charming beauty
- 50 Quarterback grunts
- 51 Conjunction
- 52 Words accompanying waves
- 53 NASA Ride
- 54 Pinkie, e.g.
- 55 Among
- 57 Bouquet receivers' needs
- 58 "Angels __ Dirty Faces"
- 59 Pale
- 61 Headways
- 62 Tumult
- 63 Odie or Otto
- 66 Advance
- 67 Stickum
- 68 __ Lane ("Des-

perate Housewives" locale)

- 70 Back-to-work day: abbr.
- 71 1492 ship
- 72 Source of sugar
- 73 Gangster's dame
- 74 Fireplace props
- 76 Book part
- 77 Mistake
- 78 Lots
- 79 Potter's rank: abbr.
- 80 100% humidity
- 82 On fire
- 85 Rabid
- 87 Guiding illumination
- 91 Wooden nickel
- 92 " __ Plays the Fool"
- 95 Matador confroter
- 96 Shredded
- 97 Upward slope
- 98 Cry of woe
- 99 Red-coated cheese
- 100 Has to pay
- 101 Chivalrous

subway donation

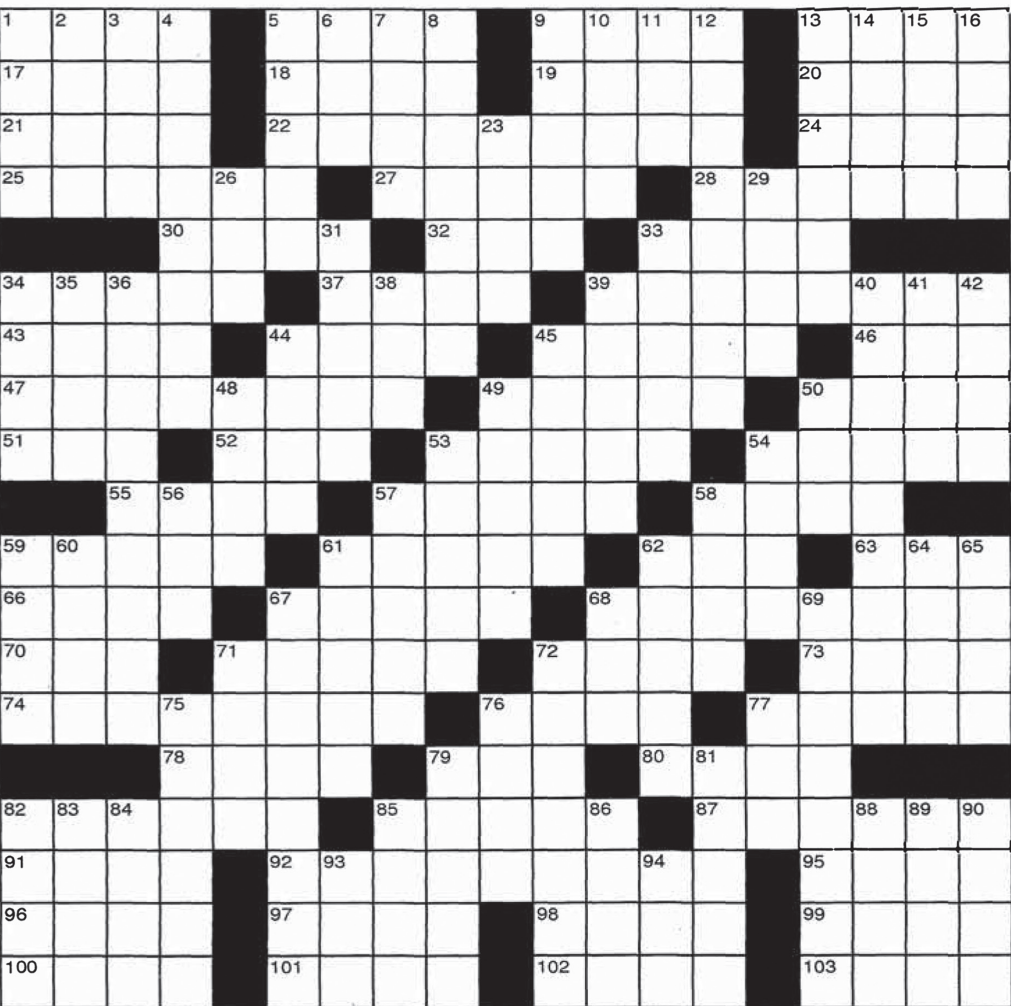
- 102 Seizes
- 103 Sand hill, in Britain

DOWN

- 1 Cher film
- 2 "My Way" composer
- 3 Use a swizzle stick
- 4 Lawmakers
- 5 Genesis gobbledegook locale
- 6 Historian's word
- 7 Fawkes et al.
- 8 Concluded successfully
- 9 Stressed out
- 10 Go underground
- 11 Have being
- 12 Horrible
- 13 Foment
- 14 Pond hopper
- 15 Perimeter
- 16 Fortuneteller
- 23 Load
- 26 Little shaver
- 29 Friend indeed

31 Swallows

- 33 Merrily
- 34 Size of type
- 35 Significant figure
- 36 Help
- 38 Actor Morita
- 39 Summons
- 40 Throat soothing lozenge
- 41 Opposed: prefix
- 42 Repose
- 44 Quoth
- 45 Takes out
- 48 Scraggy
- 49 Moisten
- 50 Whack
- 53 Start for Ana or Anna
- 54 Power
- 56 Promise Keepers members
- 57 Parking valets' garments
- 58 Advisable
- 59 Rubens of "Show Boat"
- 60 Any moment
- 61 Sandy's "Grease" love
- 62 Spot for late-night meals
- 64 Does a lube job
- 65 Singer Garnett
- 67 Trailblazers
- 68 Droll dude
- 69 Originated
- 71 Spot for a British baby
- 72 Shakespearean slave
- 75 Likenesses
- 76 Small horse
- 77 Spout falsehoods
- 79 Proofreader's mark
- 81 Deep gulf
- 82 About
- 83 Kind of chart
- 84 Sirenade?
- 85 Desert mound
- 86 Fountain drink
- 88 System of signals
- 89 Algerian seaport
- 90 Balto's destination
- 93 Compete
- 94 Small bit



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