

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Steve King today made the following statement regarding the Obama Administration's announcement that it is delaying the implementation date for a rule requiring federal contractors to use E-Verify. E-Verify is an online system that employers can use to ensure their employees, after hire, are legally authorized to work. E-Verify is free and voluntary, and the E-Verify system is the best way to make certain new hires are legal and have valid Social Security numbers.

Today's announcement further delays implementation until June 30. Previously the rule was scheduled to take effect on February 20, but in January the rule was delayed until May 21.

“In these tough economic times, no American jobs should go to illegal immigrants,” King said. “E-Verify is a quick and easy system that shuts off the illegal worker jobs magnet and provides employers with a way to verify that their employees are legal to work. Americans cannot afford to lose more jobs to illegal workers. The American people want this Administration to enforce existing immigration laws and protect American workers by using the E-Verify system.”

A 2008 government study of E-Verify revealed that in 96.1 percent of cases, an employee's work authorization was confirmed immediately. (San Francisco Chronicle)

Rep. King is the highest ranking Republican on the House Immigration Subcommittee.