

STATEMENT

Carl Marlinga opposes shutting down the southern border and believes the US should be a safe haven for those fleeing persecution.

Verification

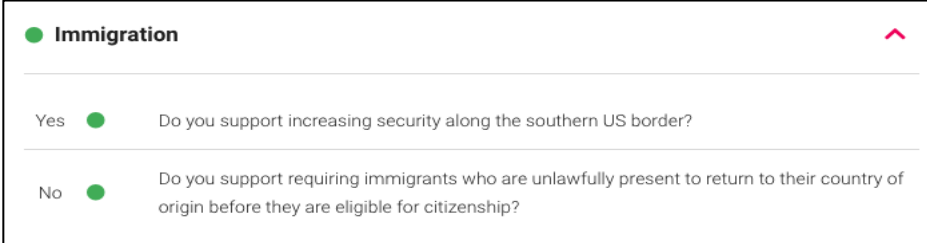
America As A Safe Haven

In 2022, Marlinga Said The United States Should Be “Be A Safe Haven For People Fleeing Persecution”

In October 2022 Debate, Marlinga Said The United States Should Be “A Safe Haven For People Fleeing Persecution.” “The two also sparred over securing the border with James voicing a need to ‘shut down’ the Mexican border and exercise extreme caution at the Canadian border as well. Marlinga said there needs to be a system in place to separate those who have legitimate reason to enter the country and become American citizens versus criminals who are bringing drugs into the country or engaging in other illegal activity. ‘We have to keep drug dealers and bad guys out but still be a safe haven for people fleeing persecution,’ said Marlinga. ‘We have to have enough judges at the border to give people quick due process so that they are either let into the country or turned away. We can’t have people just stacked at the border.’” (Susan Smiley, “Contentious Congressional Race Is Congenial In Person At SCS VFW,” [The Macomb Daily](#), 10/30/22)

In 2022, Marlinga Opposed Requiring Illegal Immigrants To Return To Their Country Of Origin Before Becoming Eligible For Citizenship

In His 2022 Vote Smart Political Courage Questionnaire, Marlinga Answered No When Asked If He Supported Requiring Illegal Immigrants To Return To Their Country Of Origin Before Becoming Eligible For Citizenship. (Carl Marlinga’s Michigan Congressional Election 2022 Political Courage Test, [VoteSmart](#), Accessed 10/25/23)



The image shows a screenshot of a political questionnaire titled "Immigration". It contains two questions, both of which have "No" selected. The first question is "Do you support increasing security along the southern US border?". The second question is "Do you support requiring immigrants who are unlawfully present to return to their country of origin before they are eligible for citizenship?".

Response	Question
Yes	Do you support increasing security along the southern US border?
No	Do you support requiring immigrants who are unlawfully present to return to their country of origin before they are eligible for citizenship?

(Carl Marlinga’s Michigan Congressional Election 2022 Political Courage Test, [VoteSmart](#), Accessed 10/25/23)

Amnesty For Dreamers

In 2022, Marlinga Was Praised By The New Democrat Coalition, An Organization Supports Amnesty For 3.6 million Dreamers

On September 20, 2022, The New Democrat Coalition Action Fund Added Marlinga To It’s Candidate Watch List. “Today, the New Democrat Coalition Action Fund announced the additions of Carl Marlinga (MI-10) and Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (WA-03) to its Candidate Watch List. Both candidates are competing for open seats.” (“NewDem Action Fund Adds Carl Marlinga (MI-10) And Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (WA-03) To Candidate Watch List,” [NewDem Coalition Action Fund](#), 9/20/22)

- **The New Democrat Action Fund Chair Praised Marlinga For “Working Tirelessly” And For His “Experience And Determination.”** “Carl and Marie are working tirelessly to hold and flip key open seats, and they have the experience and determination to make it happen,’ said NewDem Action Fund Chair Brad Schneider. ‘This November, NewDems will be the key to maintaining the Democratic House majority and our Candidate Watch List is a key indicator of the Democratic battlefield this Fall.’” (“NewDem Action Fund Adds Carl Marlinga (MI-10) And Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (WA-03) To Candidate Watch List,” [NewDem Coalition Action Fund](#), 9/20/22)

According To The National Immigration Forum, “There Are As Many As 3.6 Million Dreamers Residing In The United States.” “A Dreamer is an undocumented immigrant who came to the United States as a child. Dreamers often have only known the U.S. as home and identify as Americans. There are as many as 3.6 million Dreamers residing in the United States, many of whom either did not apply for DACA or aged into the program after it stopped accepting new applicants. Only a minority of the total Dreamer population – approximately 530,000 Dreamers – are currently protected under DACA. Even at the height of participation, only about 800,000 Dreamers were protected.” (Laurence Beneson, “Fact Sheet: Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA),” [National Immigration Forum](#), 5/21/24)

Border Security

In 2022, Marlinga’s Border Security Plan Entailed Hiring More Immigration Judges

During An October 2022 Debate, Marlinga Responded To A Border Security Question By Stating That More Immigration Judges Should Be Hired. “The two also sparred over securing the border with James voicing a need to ‘shut down’ the Mexican border and exercise extreme caution at the Canadian border as well. Marlinga said there needs to be a system in place to separate those who have legitimate reason to enter the country and become American citizens versus criminals who are bringing drugs into the country or engaging in other illegal activity. ‘We have to keep drug dealers and bad guys out but still be a safe haven for people fleeing persecution,’ said Marlinga. ‘We have to have enough judges at the border to give people quick due process so that they are either let into the country or turned away. We can’t have people just stacked at the border.’” (Susan Smiley, “Contentious Congressional Race Is Congenial In Person At SCS VFW,” [The Macomb Daily](#), 10/30/22)

The New Democrat Coalition, An Organization That Praised Marlinga, Opposed To H.R. 2, ‘Secure The Border Act Calling It “Ineffective” and “Unserious”

In 2022, The New Democrat Action Fund Chair Praised Marlinga For “Working Tirelessly” And For His “Experience And Determination.” “‘Carl and Marie are working tirelessly to hold and flip key open seats, and they have the experience and determination to make it happen,’ said NewDem Action Fund Chair Brad Schneider. ‘This November, NewDems will be the key to maintaining the Democratic House majority and our Candidate Watch List is a key indicator of the Democratic battlefield this Fall.’” (“NewDem Action Fund Adds Carl Marlinga (MI-10) And Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (WA-03) To Candidate Watch List,” [NewDem Coalition Action Fund](#), 9/20/22)

On May 10, 2023, The New Democrat Coalition Said They Are Eager For An Immigration Bill That “Secures The Border, Protects Dreamers, And Solves The Workforce Challenges We Are Seeing From Farms To Pharmacies.” “In contrast to this partisan approach, New Dems are eager to work with responsible Republicans on an immigration bill that truly secures the border, protects Dreamers, and solves the workforce challenges we are seeing from farms to pharmacies. Such a bill would grow our economy, help our communities combat crime, and stem the flow of illegal drugs into our country.” (Press Release, “New Dem Immigration & Border Security Task Force Rejects House GOP Border Bill, Which Fails To Strengthen The Economy, Combat Crime, Or Control The Flow Of Illegal Drugs,” [New Democrat Coalition](#), 5/10/23)

The New Democrat Coalition Also Called H.R. 2, “An Ineffective, Unserious Bill That Will Wreck Our Economy And Make The Challenges On Our Southern Border Worse.” “New Democrat Coalition Chair Annie Kuster (NH-02), Immigration Task Force Chair Greg Stanton (AZ-04), and Vice Chairs Salud Carbajal (CA-24) and Lou Correa (CA-46) issued a statement ahead of the House’s consideration of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act: ‘This week, our Republican colleagues will attempt to rush through an ineffective, unserious bill that will wreck our economy and make the challenges on our Southern Border worse. This extreme and partisan proposal is not a real solution to the challenges we are seeing today.’” (Press Release, “New Dem Immigration & Border Security Task Force Rejects House GOP Border Bill, Which Fails To Strengthen The Economy, Combat Crime, Or Control The Flow Of Illegal Drugs,” [New Democrat Coalition](#), 5/10/23)

- **The Secure The Border Wall Act Would “Restart Border Wall Construction, Restrict Asylum,” And “Crack Down On The Employment Of Undocumented**

Immigrants. “House Republicans passed a sweeping border security package Thursday that lawmakers in both parties and chambers said could spark bipartisan negotiations on immigration measures. The House voted 219-213 to pass the bill, which would restart border wall construction, restrict asylum and more. No Democrats supported the bill, and two Republicans also voted against it: Kentucky Rep. Thomas Massie and California Rep. John Duarte. (...) Congressional Republicans have made U.S.-Mexico border security a priority amid high migration levels. The House voted hours ahead of the end of the Title 42 policy, which is expected to further increase migration. House Majority Leader Steve Scalise, R-La., called the bill the ‘strongest border security PAC kage that Congress has ever taken up.’ The bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to resume construction of a border wall that Biden halted and invest more in border security technology and personnel. It would make it harder for migrants to qualify for asylum, permit migrant children to be detained for months with their parents and crack down on the employment of undocumented immigrants. The legislation would also limit federal funding to nongovernmental organizations that assist migrants and curb the government’s authority to allow certain migrants to come to the U.S. legally under a form of humanitarian protection known as parole.” (Suzanne Monyak And Lindsey McPherson, “House-Passed Border Bill May Spark Bipartisan Immigration Talks,” [Roll Call](#), 5/11/23)

- **The Bill Would “Increase Penalties For Individuals Who Overstay Their Visas And Bolster The Number Of Border Patrol Agents.”** “The legislation, which House Speaker Kevin McCarthy called the ‘strongest border security bill to come through Congress in more than 100 years,’ would increase penalties for individuals who overstay their visas and bolster the number of Border Patrol agents. H.R. 2, known as the ‘Secure the Border Act,’ also restarts border wall construction and reinstates the ‘remain in Mexico’ policy that required some asylum-seekers to be sent back to Mexico during immigration proceedings.” (Lauren Peller, “McCarthy-Backed Border Bill Passes House Hours Before Title 42 Ends,” [ABC News](#), 5/11/23)
- **The Legislation Would Also Overturn A Biden Administration Policy To Allow Migrants From Venezuela, Haiti, And Nicaragua “To Apply To Come To The U.S. For Two Years Legally And Work.”** “House Republicans passed a sweeping bill Thursday to build more U.S.-Mexico border wall and impose new restrictions on asylum seekers, creating a hard-line counter to President Joe Biden’s policies just as migrants are amassing along the border with the end of coronavirus pandemic restrictions. (...) The bill would also scrap a program that has allowed U.S. officials to accept or quickly turn away some migrants from Venezuela, Haiti and Nicaragua. The program is a cornerstone of Biden’s immigration efforts, allowing migrants from those countries to apply to come to the U.S. for two years legally and work.” (Stephen Groves, “House Republican Pass new Asylum Restrictions As Title 42 Ends; Biden Promises Veto,” [Associated Press](#), 5/11/23)

Protected Incestuous Predator From Deportation

In 1998, Marlinga Said He Would Accept A Plea For A Misdemeanor Charge Rather Than Prosecute A 17-Year Old Male Who Impregnated His 12-Year-Old Sister

In August 1998, Marlinga Said He Would Accept A Plea For A Misdemeanor Rather Than Prosecute A 17-Year Old Male For First-Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct For Impregnating His 12-Year-Old Sister. “A pending plea arrangement may fall through for a 17-year-old Sterling Heights youth accused of impregnating his 12-year-old sister, and deportation fears may unravel it, his attorney said Wednesday. Lawyer Arthur Garton said he has not received assurances from immigration officials that the teen won’t be deported to India if he admits to fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, a misdemeanor. Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga said last week he would accept a plea for the high misdemeanor rather than prosecute the Sterling Heights High School senior on a count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct -- a felony that triggers automatic deportation.” (Kim North, “Plea Deal Crumbling For Teen Accused Of Raping Sister,” [Detroit Free Press](#), 8/27/98)

- **Marlinga Settled For A Lower Misdemeanor Charge That Included A Maximum 2-Year Prison Sentence Rather Than Pursuing A First-Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct Charge, Which Carried A Life Sentence.** “The name of the teen is not being used by *The Detroit News* to protect the identity of the victim. ... The teen had been charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct. If convicted, he could have been sentenced to life in prison. The lower charge is a misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of two years in jail. Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga, who won the conviction, fought the deportation. (“First Jail, Then India For Teen: Convicted Of Sexual Misconduct With Sister, He Will Be Deported Shortly After Release,” [The Detroit News](#), 11/5/99)

Marlinga Pursued The Lower Charge, Because He Wanted To Prevent The Deportation Of The Defendant To India And Risk Splitting Up The Family. “Marlinga said he wanted to prevent having a deportation split up the family and further traumatize a confused girl. The 12-year-old received a late-term abortion last month in a case that sparked national concern about incest, the parents’ rights and court intervention.” Kim North, “Plea Deal Crumbling For Teen Accused Of Raping Sister,” [Detroit Free Press](#), 8/27/98)

Marlinga Later Said If Immigration Officials Insisted On Deporting The Defendant, He Might Drop The Rape Charges. “Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga said Monday that if immigration officials insist on deporting a 17-year-old boy accused of impregnating his 12-year-old sister, he may drop rape charges against the teen. ‘I don’t want to send the message that a rape will go unacknowledged,’ Marlinga said. ‘But I will say of both options that what troubles me most is having this young rape victim pack up and go back to India.’ The girl would be forced to leave because the entire family would return to its homeland if the boy is expelled, Marlinga said. He has had no assurances from Immigration and Naturalization Service officials that they won’t deport the youth if he pleads to a misdemeanor to avoid a felony charge.” (Kim North, “Prosecutor Might Drop Rape Charge,” [Detroit Free Press](#), 9/1/98)

Ultimately, The Defendant Was Sentenced To 3 Years’ Probation And 6 Months In Prison After Marlinga Reduced The Charge; He Was Later Deported Over Marlinga’s Objections

In 1999, The Defendant Was Ordered To Be Deported To India Following His Release From A 6-Month Prison Sentence For Misdemeanor Criminal Sexual Conduct. “A teenager who impregnated his 12-year-old sister will be deported to India following his release from jail. The Sterling Heights teen was sentenced in February to three years’ probation, six months in prison and six months on a tether for fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, a misdemeanor. He began his sentence in June, following completion of his senior year of high school. He is expected to be released at the end of this year.” (“Teen Will Be Deported Once He Is Released From Prison,” [The Associated Press](#), 10/7/99)

Marlinga Fought The Defendant’s Deportation, Claiming That He Was “Not A Predatory Person.” “A Sterling Heights teen will be deported to his native India shortly after his release Saturday from the Macomb County Jail. The 18-year-old is completing a 6-month sentence after pleading guilty last December to fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct for impregnating his younger sister. The case drew national attention when the girl, then 12, went to Kansas for a controversial late-term abortion. ... The teen had been charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct. If convicted, he could have been sentenced to life in prison. The lower charge is a misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of two years in jail. Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga, who won the conviction, fought the deportation. ‘The family may go back, and then the sister ends up de facto deported for the sins of her brother,’ Marlinga said. ‘If the girl goes back to India, there is a cultural distinction in that she may bear some shame, regardless of the circumstances. But here, she’ll clearly be looked at as a victim and deserving of the community’s support, sympathy and assistance.’ ... But Marlinga said the teen is not likely to repeat the crime. ‘(He) is not a predatory person looking for a victim. There’s no reason to fear any new occurrence,’ the prosecutor added.” (“First Jail, Then India For Teen: Convicted Of Sexual Misconduct With Sister, He Will Be Deported Shortly After Release,” [The Detroit News](#), 11/5/99)

Marlinga On The Defendant's Deportation: "I Think It's Very Sad. I Think This Case Should Be Brought To The Attention Of Representatives In Congress So As To Put Some Flexibility In Dealing With Immigrants. I Only Hope That The Young Victim Of The Crime, His Sister, Stays In The Country." "Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga said news of the deportation was disappointing. 'I think it's very sad,' he said. 'I think this case should be brought to the attention of representatives in Congress so as to put some flexibility in dealing with immigrants. I only hope that the young victim of the crime, his sister, stays in the country.'" ("Teen Will Be Deported Once He Is Released From Prison," [The Associated Press](#), 10/7/99)

- **Additional Case Synopsis:** "He always intended to file charges against the teen, he said, and in August 1998, the 17-year-old was arraigned on first-degree criminal sexual conduct charges. Marlinga later agreed to let the teen plead guilty to fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, a misdemeanor carrying a maximum sentence of two years in prison. At the time of the deal, Marlinga was hoping it would allow the boy to stay in the U.S. He cited the further trauma that the sister would likely endure if her brother were sentenced to a long prison term and then deported. Marlinga said he feared that deportation could mean his parents would leave and take their daughter with them back to India, where she would potentially be ostracized because of what happened to her. 'I was kind of trapped in coming up with a solution that didn't end up punishing the girl,' he recalled. ... The brother served six months in prison, released in November 1999, and was promptly deported to India by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, according to news reports at the time." (Melissa Nann Burke, "Marlinga's Role In '98 Late-Term Abortion Case Resurfaces In U.S. House Bid," [The Detroit News](#), 7/22/22)

In 1998, Advocates For Sex Crime Victims And A Marlinga Staffer Criticized Him For Claiming The Defendant Who Impregnated His 12-Year Old Sister Had Merely Engaged In "Youthful Sexual Experimentation"

In August 1998, Advocates For Sex Crime Victims And A Marlinga Staffer Criticized Him For Claiming The Defendant Who Impregnated His 12-Year Old Sister Had Merely Engaged In "Youthful Sexual Experimentation." "The Macomb County prosecutor was criticized by advocates for sex crime victims and even a ranking staffer for saying a 17-year-old who impregnated his 12-year-old sister had taken part in 'youthful sexual experimentation.' 'When you're having sexual intercourse with your sister, that is not youthful experimentation,' Patricia Fresard, head of the prosecutor office's sex crimes unit, said Thursday. 'There is something terribly wrong there.' Alicia Rinaldi, a counselor with Turning Point, a Mount Clemens center for sexually abused and battered women, said: 'To classify this as sexual experimentation minimizes what happened. ... 'There was a pregnancy because of it, a conception of a child, and an abortion. This is what could not be classified as children experimenting with their sexuality.' ... Authorities had said they would pursue a felony criminal sexual conduct count against the brother. That charge carries a possible life term. Since he is an immigrant, it also could mean deportation. But in a story published Wednesday by *The Macomb Daily* of Mount Clemens, Prosecutor Carl Marlinga suggested he may pursue a lesser sex charge. 'This is looking like a case of youthful sexual experimentation that was wrongful and certainly criminal,' he said. 'But I believe he (is) no threat to others. He doesn't even seem like a threat to his sister anymore.'" (Mount Clemens, "Prosecutor Criticized For Comment," [The Associated Press](#), 8/7/98)