

STATEMENT

Curtis Hertel Believes That Americans Owe “A Debt” To Illegal Immigrants Who Broke The Law. Hertel Supports Sanctuary Cities, Mass Amnesty, And Taxpayer Funded Benefits For Illegals.

Verification

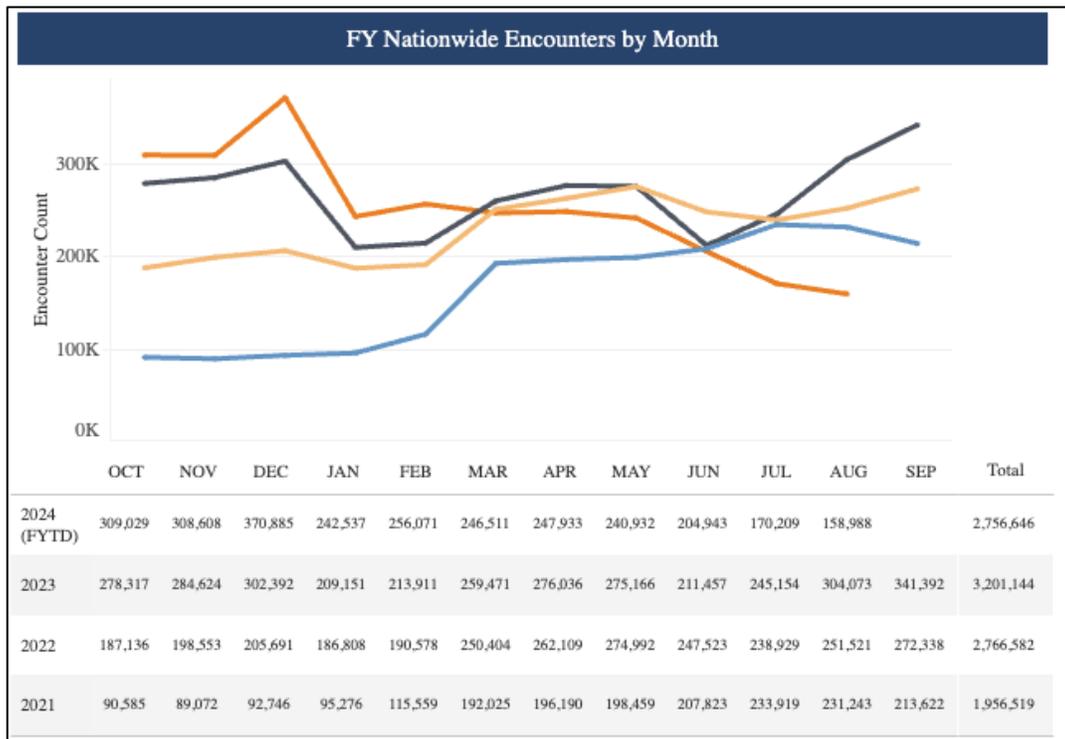
On October 25, 2024, The Midwesterner Tweeted A Video Of Hertel Claiming That Americans Owe “A Debt” To Illegal Immigrants And That He Does Not “Have An Interest In Deporting” Millions Of Illegals Who Broke U.S. Law.

HERTEL: “I have said, for example, in the past that we should respect those that have tried to come here. Because, even if they haven’t done it legally, we owe a debt; like, they took a risk for their family and there’s nothing more American than that...I’m getting hit right now because I said that Lansing police should not have the ability to just ask people for their papers, for example. Like I don’t believe in it. I think it’s unwelcoming of the community.” JOURNALIST: “Will you be working with Republicans to try and deport everybody?” HERTEL: “No, I don’t have an interest in deporting anybody.” (The Midwesterner, [Twitter](#), 10/25/24)



(The Midwesterner, [Twitter](#), 10/25/24)

There Have Been Over 9.5 Million Border Migrant Encounters At Our Borders Since October 2021. (U.S. Border Patrol And Office Of Field Operations Encounters By Area Of Responsibility And Component,” [Customs And Border Protection](#), Accessed 9/17/24)



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Sanctuary Cities

Hertel Defended The Lansing City Council’s Decision To Declare Lansing A “Sanctuary City”

Hertel Supported Lansing’s Decision To Declare Itself A Sanctuary City. “FIRST ON FOX: A Michigan Democrat seeking to replace Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Mich., in the House previously suggested that he opposes the idea of local governments in the state reporting illegal immigrants to federal immigration authorities and voiced his support for Lansing’s decision to declare itself a sanctuary city at the time.” (Kyle Morris, “Dem Hoping To Replace Slotkin Supports Letting Local Governments Call The Shots On ICE Deportations,” [Fox News](#), 3/11/24)

In April 2017, The Lansing City Council Voted To Declare Lansing A Sanctuary City For Illegal Immigrants. “The Lansing City Council has voted to designate Lansing as a sanctuary city for immigrants living in the U.S. without legal permission. The resolution was approved unanimously Monday night. Lansing had already deemed itself a ‘welcoming city’ and doesn’t have its police department ask people for their immigration status except as required by federal or state law or court decision. Mayor Virg Bernero before the meeting released a related executive order spelling out the city’s policies.” (“Lansing City Council Votes For Sanctuary City Designation,” [The Associated Press](#), 4/4/17)

Rep. Mike Bishop, Whose District Included Lansing, Denounced The Decision As “Completely Reckless” And Warned That It Put Millions Of Dollars In Federal Funding In Jeopardy. “Congressman Mike Bishop isn’t pleased with City Council’s decision to declare Lansing a ‘sanctuary city.’ In fact, Bishop, R-Rochester, on Tuesday described City Council’s Monday vote as ‘a completely reckless decision’ that puts the community in danger. ‘It’s the role of the federal government to form immigration policy, not local municipalities,’ Bishop said in a statement emailed to the Lansing State Journal. ‘We are a nation that is built on the rule of law and this sends a dangerous message that local governments or individuals can simply pick and choose which laws they wish to follow.’ Bishop, whose 8th District includes Lansing, said council members showed ‘they are willing to jeopardize millions of dollars in federal resources that the entire community relies on, simply to make a politically charged statement.’” (Eric Lacy, “U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop Blasts Lansing’s ‘Reckless’ Sanctuary Vote,” [Lansing State Journal](#), 4/5/17)

VIDEO: Asked About Bishop’s Comments In An Interview, Hertel Defended Lansing’s Decision To Declare Itself A Sanctuary City, Saying “Asking People For Papers And All Those Kinds Of Things Can Make Lansing An Unwelcoming Place For People That Look Different.” HERTEL: “Well, you know, I think that Mike represents a really diverse district, and he should probably come to Lansing and talk to people more about how they feel about issues. I think if he did that, he’d know that we’re community that has is very diverse, the City of Lansing does not want their police officers to be immigration officials, the decision that I think any city could make. And for me, you know, we can try to demonize this and make it something else than what it is, but it really all it’s saying is they don’t that they don’t want the immigration status to be determined by police officers. And I think that’s probably a good thing. You know, asking people for papers and all those kinds of things can make Lansing and unwelcoming place for people that look different than you or I. So we don’t want that in Lansing. So that’s a decision the city council made. I think it’s good. I think it’s fair.” (“170408 S5E28 Rick Jones and Curtis Hertel Jr,” [YouTube](#), 4/8/17)

- **Hertel: “We Can Try To Demonize This And Make It Something Else Than What It Is, But It Really All It’s Saying Is They Don’t That They Don’t Want The Immigration Status To Be Determined By Police Officers. And I Think That’s Probably A Good Thing.”** (“170408 S5E28 Rick Jones and Curtis Hertel Jr,” [YouTube](#), 4/8/17)
- **Hertel: “So That’s A Decision The City Council Made. I Think It’s Good. I Think It’s Fair.”** (“170408 S5E28 Rick Jones and Curtis Hertel Jr,” [YouTube](#), 4/8/17)
- **Hertel: “I Don’t Think That That That Lansing Has A Responsibility To Be Immigration Officials. I Don’t. And I Think It’s I Think, Frankly, It’s Very Unwelcoming To Have That Happen.”** (“170408 S5E28 Rick Jones and Curtis Hertel Jr,” [YouTube](#), 4/8/17)

The Lansing City Council Rescinded The Sanctuary City Declaration A Week And A Half After It Was Adopted. “City Council changed course Wednesday night and voted to rescind a controversial declaration for Lansing that’s created division over the past week and a half. With a 5-2 vote, council decided to no longer have the city be declared a sanctuary city for refugees and immigrants, including those who may be undocumented. The declaration, part of a council resolution, initially passed on April 3 with a 6-0 vote.” (Eric Lacy, “Lansing City Council Reverses Sanctuary City Status,” [Lansing State Journal](#), 4/13/17)

Build Back Better

Hertel Supported Joe Biden’s Build Back Better Legislation

In 2021, Hertel Participated In A Michigan Event To Call On Congress To Pass The Build Back Better Act. “Michigan State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. and Rep. Julie Brixie, and labor and clean energy advocates call for the final passage of the Build Back Better Act (BBBA) and urge Congress to tackle the climate crisis, reduce pollution, and cut energy costs for working Michiganders” (“Michigan State Lawmakers And Advocates Call For The Passage Of The BBBA,” *AP Planner*, 12/15/21)

Mass Amnesty For Illegal Immigrants

However, The Build Back Better Act Has Been Called The “Largest Mass-Legalization Program For Undocumented Immigrants In U.S. History” And Would Grant Amnesty To Millions Of Illegal Immigrants

“If Passed Into Law, President Biden’s Build Back Better Bill Would Create The Largest Mass-Legalization Program For Undocumented Immigrants In U.S. History.” “If passed into law, President Biden’s Build Back Better bill would create the largest mass-legalization program for undocumented immigrants in U.S. history. Roughly 7 million of the 11 million unauthorized immigrants currently in the U.S. — including “Dreamers,” coronavirus-era essential workers and farmworkers — would be eligible for the new would be eligible for the new immigration protections.” (Carmen Valencia, “Immigration protections in Build Back Better bill bring hope to DACA recipients,” [Yahoo! News](#), 12/3/21)

- **“The Reconciliation Bill Would Create The Largest Mass-Legalization Program For Undocumented Immigrants In U.S. History.”** (Maria Sacchetti, “How the House spending bill sets a path to legalization for undocumented immigrants,” [Washington Post](#), 11/19/21)

The CBO Has Determined That The Build Back Better Act Would Grant Temporary Amnesty To “An Estimated 6.5 Million Non-U.S. Nationals.” “Under President Joe Biden’s current Build Back Better Act (H.R. 5376), an estimated 6.5 million non-U.S. nationals, many of whom are already in the U.S. illegally, would be granted temporary amnesty, according to a report from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” (Alek Schemmel, “Build Back Better Act would grant amnesty to millions of people, CBO says,” [KATV](#), 11/29/21)

The Build Back Better Act Would Provide Provisions For Roughly “Seven Million Undocumented Immigrants Currently In The United States” Which Would “Offer A ‘Parole’ Process That Would Waive Immigration Requirements For Five Years” And Up To Ten Years. “House Democrats’ Plan C immigration provisions do not contain a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants and instead offer a ‘parole’ process that would waive immigration requirements for five years with the chance to extend for another five years for those who immigrated before January 2011. This set of provisions would target roughly seven million undocumented immigrants currently in the United States, including the Dreamers and certain classes of essential workers during the pandemic.” (Isabel Soto, Whitney Appel, Maya Shanahan, “Immigration Provisions In Build Back Better,” [American Action Forum](#), 11/10/21)

Student Aid For Illegal Immigrants

The Build Back Better Act Would “Expand Eligibility For Federal Student Aid” To Illegal Immigrants

If The Build Back Better Act Passes As It Stood In November Of 2021, “The Federal Government Will Invest In A Particular Group Of Students That It Hasn’t Supported Before—Those Who Are Undocumented.” “If the legislation passes as it is currently written, the federal government will invest in a particular group of students that it hasn’t supported before—those who are undocumented.” (Alexis Gravely, “How The Build Back Better Act Would Help Dreamers In College,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), 11/15/21)

The Text Of The Build Back Better Act Includes A Provision “That Would Expand Eligibility For Federal Student Aid To Students With Temporary Protected Status Or Who Are Recipients Of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA).” “The current text of Democrats’ \$1.75 trillion social spending bill includes a provision that would expand eligibility for federal student aid to students with Temporary Protected Status or who are recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a program that provides protection against deportation to immigrants often known as Dreamers who were brought to the United States without documentation as children. About 427,000 undocumented students are in higher education, but none of them are able to finance their education using federal financial aid, even though most would be eligible based on income.” (Alexis Gravely, “How The Build Back Better Act Would Help Dreamers In College,” [Inside Higher Ed](#), 11/15/21)

Tax Credits To Illegal Immigrants

The Build Back Better Act Would Give \$10.5 Billion To Illegal Immigrants In Payments From The Child Tax Credit

The Current Version Of The Build Back Better Act Would Allocate \$10.5 Billion In Cash Payments To Illegal Immigrants. “The current version of the BBB Act repeals p. 1,452, line 14, the requirement that children claimed as dependents need Social Security numbers (SSNs). As a result, illegal immigrants whose children are illegal immigrants as well will receive an estimated \$1.5 billion in payments from the new program. The elimination of the SSN requirement also allows the more than 600,000 illegal immigrants encountered at the border in family units or as unaccompanied minors and released in FY 2021 to receive cash payments from the new CTC. We roughly estimate these new arrivals will receive slightly less than \$800 million from the program, for a total of \$10.5

billion in cash payments to illegal immigrants here in 2020 or released into the country in FY 2021. Receipt of payments under the new CTC is made all the easier because the BBB eliminates the work requirement of the old ACTC.” (Steven A. Camarota, “Illegal Immigrants Get \$10.5 Billion From Child Tax Credit In Reconciliation; More Than Previously Estimated,” [Center For Immigration Studies](#), 11/9/21)

The Build Back Better Act Includes A Provision That “Would Repeal The Social Security Number Requirement To Obtain Child Tax Credits,” Which Would “Expand Child Tax Credits To Parents Of Illegal Immigrants Who Don't Have Social Security Numbers.”

“President Biden's massive \$1.75 trillion spending bill would drop a component of the child tax credit program that could lead to billions in payouts to illegal immigrants. Tucked away on page 1,647 of the Build Back Better Act, the Democrats' social spending package, is a provision that would repeal the Social Security number requirement to obtain child tax credits. This change would expand child tax credits to parents of illegal immigrants who don't have Social Security numbers.” (Joe Schoffstall, “Biden's Spending Bill Drops Key Child Tax Credit Requirement That Could Pay Out Billions To Illegal Immigrants,” [Fox News](#), 11/15/21)