

Stay at home, U.S. tells border crossers, or else...

Written by bert pelayo
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WHATEVER honeymoon there is between President Barack Obama and Congress, that's over.

House Republicans have sued Obama in federal court, charging him with grave abuse of power.

Although the lawsuit is largely symbolic, it spelled the death of bipartisanship between the White House and Capitol Hill.

So don't expect any legislation any time soon that seeks to reform the badly shattered immigration system.

That means Obama is left on his own device to bring about a solution to the plight of an

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estimated 11 million who are in this country illegally.

By the end of summer, he plans to announce an executive order that could possibly allow a large portion of these illegal immigrants already in the country to stay.

In a parallel move, the administration will grant work permits to millions of them before the November midterm elections.

This is clearly a nod to the Latino swing vote, which has gone Democratic in the last two presidential elections.

During his first campaign, Obama promised to repair the broken immigration system.

One of the provisions of the bill that passed Senate include a path to citizenship of the millions of overstayers.

But the Republican-controlled House vigorously opposed the path, calling it amnesty.

Despite backing by Speaker John Boehner, party conservatives succeeded in derailing any semblance of immigration legislation.

The measure never got to a floor vote, much less gotten out of committee.

Exasperated at being unable to whip the naysayers into line, Boehner gave up trying.

He then led the move to sue Obama in federal court, which legal scholars describe as a flight of

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whimsy.

Some dubbed it “impeachment lite.”

The White House was delighted with the lawsuit because it enabled it to play the impeachment card, going on a fundraising spree across the country.

A House impeachment vote, however, is off the tracks.

It will certainly fail in the Senate, which is dominated by Democrats.

But in a sudden shift of strategy, the Obama White House wants to place Central American families and children slipping into the U.S. on a fast track for deportation.

The surge of border crossers was first declared a humanitarian crisis.

Washington now wants this crossing stopped, with a blunt message that those caught entering illegally will be deported.

Until recently, most families were allowed to remain here while their deportation cases are decided in court.

This had emboldened parents from the region to sneak across the border with their young children.

Henceforth, they will be deterred from leaving their home country.

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