

## **MAJOR NEWS IN SUMMARY;**

### **A 1985 Model Immigration Bill**

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## **Body**

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After years of arguing about the nation's immigration law, the House and Senate almost agreed on a broad package of revisions near the end of the 1984 Congressional session. But agreement eluded them and the bill died.

Last week, the Senate approved, 69 to 30, its 1985-model bill.

The legislation has several by-now-familiar features; it would beef up enforcement of immigration rules, penalize employers who hire illegal aliens and gradually grant legal residence to those who entered the country illegally before Jan. 1, 1980. But the vote was considerably closer than the margins by which earlier, similar measures had been adopted, reflecting sharp disagreement over a temporary foreign worker program.

The program, proposed by Senator Pete Wilson, Republican of California, and adopted at the urging of Western fruit and vegetable growers, would allow as many as 350,000 workers to cross the border. Without these field hands, said Senator Wilson, many growers would "watch their crops rot." The foreign worker program was opposed by some of the bill's principal backers as well as by such interested bystanders as Secretary of Labor Bill Brock and the A.F.L.-C.I.O.

After the final head count, Senator Alan K. Simpson, Republican of Wyoming and chief sponsor of the legislation, called his handiwork "a damn good bill that reaches out and even gathers up more interests" than earlier measures. The House is not expected to take up its bill until early 1986, and its debate is likely to be as heated as the Senate's.

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