

## **National identity cards won't stop illegal aliens**

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### **Body**

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**NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS**, a trial balloon floated recently by the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform, is a proposal that deserves early burial.

It's an impractical, extremist remedy for the problem of **illegal** immigration and is also an affront to privacy. Compulsory fingerprinting, which would be required, would provoke a response that would make the protest over gun control look tame. And finally, we've no real confidence that such **cards** could be made counterfeit-proof or would **stop illegal aliens**.

The commission would do well to concentrate on more realistic reforms before its final report is released in September. Overhauling the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service certainly warrants high priority. The INS fails to deport three out of four **illegal aliens**. And if the commission feels compelled to be provocative, it can suggest that the White House cease using immigration and political asylum as foreign policy tools, which inconsistently welcome foreigners to and shun them from our shores.

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