

✓ PF Illegal Aliens rP 4/5/88

# Illegal immigrants get new extension from INS

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Beginning this week, illegal immigrants who file an application for amnesty will have through July 4 to turn in supporting documents, federal immigration officials announced yesterday.

However, illegal immigrants must still file their application and accompanying fee (\$185 per individual; maximum \$420 per family) by the original May 4 deadline set by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

As of yesterday, people who filed applications were notified of the extension for turning in the documents, said Tom Maddry, the chief immigration officer at the Salinas INS office that serves Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties.

Applicants can use their fee receipts, good until the date of the scheduled follow-up interview when all accompanying documentation must be presented, as work permits, Maddry said.

The new law does not apply to agricultural workers, who have until Nov. 30 to complete their

applications.

"This bare-bones application does not apply to the SAW (Special Agricultural Worker) law," Maddry said, adding that his office has seen a recent increase in the number of SAW applications.

Maddry attributed the increase to an active outreach program and the possible belief by immigrants that the May 4 deadline is applicable to everyone.

He stressed that the INS opposes efforts to extend the current deadlines for both immigrant groups.

Last week, the House Judiciary Committee approved a bill extending the amnesty program for all to Nov. 30. The bill will now go to the full House of Representatives.

A bill to extend the amnesty program for a full year is pending in the U.S. Senate.

Since the Salinas office opened May 5, 1987, more than 27,000 applications had been filed through last month.

Officials have estimated that from 40,000 to 50,000 illegal

immigrants live in the Pajaro and Salinas valleys.

Maddry also announced that "qualified designated entities" — national or local agencies authorized to assist in the immigration process — will not have to provide all the supporting documents once an application has been filed with the agency and the fee paid. The INS will follow up the application.

Maddry said a state agency, perhaps the Employment Development Department, will be authorized to process applications in the coming days.

All agencies participating in the process will continue to be paid a processing fee of \$15 or \$16 for each applicant they assist, he said.

Also, Maddry announced that beginning April 25, INS offices will be open "as long as necessary to accommodate crowds."

And if the INS has to, it will "fudge a little" and stay open past the midnight deadline of May 4.

"We will stay open here as long as people are here," Maddry said.