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Attorney General Bird Defends President Trump's Executive Order Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship

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DES MOINES—Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird today announced that she is leading 18 states in defending President Trump's executive order that restores the meaning and value of American citizenship.

On day one in office, President Trump signed an executive order to end the birthright citizenship loophole for birth tourism and illegal aliens. This order follows record illegal crossings on the southern border under the Biden-Harris administration, including convicted criminals, violent gang members, and suspected terrorists. The executive order eliminates the incentive for illegal immigration by reserving birthright citizenship for children born in the United States to American citizens or legal noncitizens like lawful permanent residents.

"President Trump is right: we must restore the meaning and value of American citizenship," said Attorney General Bird. "For too long, mass numbers of illegal aliens and foreign tourists—especially from China—have been entering our country just to give birth here and hand their kids American citizenship. On top of that, taxpayers are on the hook to pay for it. I'm defending President Trump's

executive order that closes the birthright citizenship loophole and eliminates the incentive for illegal immigration. No one should be rewarded for breaking the law.”

In 2023, an estimated 225,000-250,000, or 7% of all, births in the U.S. were to illegal aliens—six times more than the total number of all births in Iowa that same year. Taxpayers also foot the bill for these births through Medicaid, children's health insurance, and healthcare for the accompanying family. Reports show that the lure of birthright citizenship has inspired some pregnant women to cross the southern border even the day before or day of giving birth, with some going into labor while still wet from swimming across the Rio Grande river.

The States make the case that President Trump's executive order is constitutional and follows the original meaning of the 14th Amendment. The 14th Amendment has a two-part test for granting American citizenship:

1. Was the individual born or naturalized into the United States?
2. Is that individual subject to the “jurisdiction” of the United States?

The brief describes how only children born to American citizens or legal noncitizens like lawful permanent residents pass both parts of the test.

Iowa led the brief and was joined by Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Read the full brief [here](#).

Read the Fox News exclusive [here](#).

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