

The background of the cover features a composite image. On the left, the Statue of Liberty is shown in a light green color, holding a tablet in her left hand. The tablet has the date 'JULY 4 1776' and the words 'DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE' visible. On the right, a historical photograph of Chinese immigrants, likely the 'Coolies', is overlaid with a red tint. They are wearing traditional conical hats and carrying tools, standing in a line. The overall background is a dark red gradient.

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

EXCLUDED!

Chinese Immigration to the United States

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Problem Log

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**House of Representatives
United States Congress
Internal Memorandum**

MEMO TO REPRESENTATIVES FROM CALIFORNIA

From: Legislative Staff Drafting a Bill Regarding Chinese Immigration

Regarding: Your Support for the Attached Bill Components

The attached list of components for the bill we are drafting regarding Chinese immigrants to the United States needs your attention and, we hope, your support. We are sure you are receiving considerable mail from California voters about the tidal wave of Chinese immigration that is causing economic and social chaos in your state. We believe that this state of affairs can no longer be ignored.

The final text for this bill will be assembled over the next two weeks; therefore, we need your reactions to these components within a week. There is much to discuss: Geary wants to require a certificate of residence; some want the hard labor provision removed. Please tell us which components you are willing to support, which you are inclined to reject, which you wish to see changed in some way, and any new components you wish to add.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Draft Legislation: The Geary Act, 1892

That any Chinese person or person of Chinese descent, when convicted and adjudged under any of said laws to be not lawfully entitled to be or remain in the United States, shall be removed from the United States to China, unless he or they shall make it appear to the justice, judge, or commissioner before whom he or they are tried that he or they are subjects or citizens of some other country, in which case he or they shall be removed from the United States to such country: Provided, That in any case where such other county of which such Chinese person shall claim to be a citizen or subject shall demand any tax as a condition of the removal of such person to that country, he or she shall be removed to China.

That any Chinese person or person of Chinese descent arrested under the provisions of this act or the acts hereby extended shall be adjudged to be unlawfully within the United States unless such person shall establish, by affirmative proof, to the satisfaction of such justice, judge, or commissioner, his lawful right to remain in the United States.

That any such Chinese person or person of Chinese descent convicted and adjudged to be not lawfully entitled to be or remain in the United States shall be imprisoned at hard labor for a period not exceeding one year and thereafter removed from the United States, as hereinbefore provided.

That after the passage of this act on an application to any judge or court of the United States in the first instance for a writ of habeas corpus by a Chinese person seeking to land in the United States, to whom that privilege has been denied, no bail shall be allowed, and such application shall be heard and determined promptly without unnecessary delay.

And it shall be the duty of all Chinese laborers within the limits of the United States, at the time of the passage of this act, and who are entitled to remain in the United States, to apply to the collector of internal revenue of their respective districts, within one year after the passage of this act, for a certificate of residence, and any Chinese laborer, within the limits of the United States, who shall neglect, fail, or refuse to comply with the provisions of this act, or who, after one year from the passage hereof, shall be found within the jurisdiction of the United States without such certificate of residence, shall be deemed and adjudged to be unlawfully within the United States, and may be arrested, by any United States customs official, collector of internal revenue or his deputies, United States marshal or his deputies, and taken before a United States judge, whose duty it shall be to order that he be deported from the United States as hereinbefore provided, unless he shall establish clearly to the satisfaction of said judge that by reason of accident, sickness, or other unavoidable cause, he has been unable to procure his certificate, and to the satisfaction of the court, and by at least one credible white witness, that he was a resident of the United States at the time of the passage of this act; and if upon the hearing, it shall appear that he is so entitled to a certificate, it shall be granted upon his paying the cost.

That any person who shall knowingly and falsely alter or substitute any name for the name written in such certificate or forge such certificate, or knowingly utter any forged or fraudulent certificate, or falsely personate any person named in such certificate, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars or imprisoned in the penitentiary for a term of not more than five years.

Learning Issues Board

Hunches:

What We Know	Learning Issues	Plan of Action

Reflective Moment: Encountering a Problem

Briefly respond to one of the questions below. Place an x by the question answered.

What do you see as odd or surprising about the problem? Why is it surprising?

What personal belief or value do you hold that might affect the way you think about this problem?

A quality response: (1) addresses the question, (2) stays on topic, (3) is plausible or reasonable, and (4) gives enough detail to make your ideas clear.
