

Sen. John McCain targeted as a result of his immigration stance

"I have never seen an issue that has inflamed the passions of the American people the way the issue of immigration reform has -- ever -- including Iraq. I have never heard such rhetoric. We have never received death threats before like I received," Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain told the Aspen Daily News.

McCain, speaking to an audience of more than 500 at the Aspen Institute in Colorado, acknowledged his campaign has been hurt by his support for bipartisan immigration reform.

"We've taken some setbacks and I know one of the questions is going to be on the issue of immigration reform," McCain said. "That has probably caused great difficulties, but look, I've got to do what I know is right for this country. These issues I have to take head-on. I have to stand for what I believe in."

The Associated Press said McCain "declined to elaborate on the threats he had received."