

It's Time to Finish the Job on Immigration Reform...

June 5, 2007

Dear Members of the United States Senate,

We are employers from across America drawn together by our urgent need for a better immigration system, and we ask you to pass the Senate package you are debating this week.

We are state-based groups, coalitions of businesses and business associations from all sectors of the economy that employ less skilled immigrants: hotels, restaurants, building contractors, food processing companies, farmers, landscape contractors, banks, manufacturers, retailers and others.

Together, we employ over 10 million workers, native-born and immigrants. With fewer and fewer native-born workers available we need a continuing stream of foreign-born workers to grow our businesses, and we want to stay on the right side of the law. But many of our states are passing draconian employer sanction bills making it all but impossible to stay in business. If we don't grow our operations, all our employees, immigrant and native-born, will pay the price.

Like most constituents, we have concerns about parts of the Senate bill and hope it can be improved as it moves through Congress. The basic framework of the bipartisan agreement is a good place to start on the reform we need!

We, the backbone of business in America, need a package that provides for better border security, a temporary worker program with a realistic market-based cap, a path to legal status for the estimated 12 million people already enmeshed in our economy, and the means to reliably identify current and future workers.

S.1348 is not perfect but it is a good start toward the comprehensive immigration reform we need. Please work with your colleagues to improve and pass this legislation. Our businesses and the workers we employ cannot wait another year for Congress to act.

Sincerely,

Arizona Employers for Immigration Reform
(www.azeir.com)

Nevada Employers for Immigration Reform
(www.nveir.org)

Colorado Employers for Immigration Reform
(www.coeir.com)

Texas Employers for Immigration Reform
(www.txeir.org)

Florida Employers for Immigration and Visa Reform
(www.feivr.org)

Texans for Sensible Immigration Policy
(www.txsip.com)

Georgia Employers for Immigration Reform

Tennessee Employers for Immigration Reform

Oklahoma Employers for Immigration Reform
(www.okeir.org)

Utah Employers for Immigration Reform