

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Leadership Council

Anna Burger
Chair
Change to Win
International
Secretary-Treasurer
Service Employees
International Union (SEIU)

November 29, 2007

Dear Madam Speaker:

Edgar Romney
Secretary-Treasurer
Change to Win
Executive Vice President
UNITE HERE

Change to Win, a federation of seven unions with six million members, believes that the fight for fair treatment and legal protection for immigrant workers in this country is inextricably linked to the fight to restore better wages, benefits, and working conditions for all workers. To help make the American Dream a reality for all, it is our continued hope that we will see comprehensive immigration reform enacted in the 110th Congress.

Joseph Hansen
International President
United Food and
Commercial Workers
International Union (UFCW)

Recently, some Members of Congress in both parties are again promoting legislation that would take a draconian, "enforcement-only" approach to immigration reform. Change to Win does not and cannot support any bill that attempts to deal with immigration in this fragmented and punitive manner.

Geralyn Lutty
International Vice President
United Food and
Commercial Workers
International Union (UFCW)

Enforcement-only approaches that do not provide undocumented workers with a workable, earned path to legal status would visit significant harm on U.S. workers throughout the economy, without solving the problem it purports to attack. "Bad-apple" employers who are already exploiting this workforce or leveraging their lack of status to crush union organizing efforts may simply opt out of the system, keeping those employees "off the grid" or taking their entire operation underground. This leaves both undocumented workers and legal workers highly vulnerable to discrimination and potential exploitation. Moreover, undocumented workers who are fired *will not leave the country*; they will simply find other more marginal jobs, again most likely in the unregulated cash economy.

Douglas J. McCarron
General President
United Brotherhood
of Carpenters
and Joiners
of America (UBC)

Terence M. O'Sullivan
General President
Laborers' International Union
of North America (LIUNA)

In the name of getting tough, enforcement-only proposals (such as the Secure America through Verification and Enforcement Act) will simply reinforce the status quo while intensifying its negative effects. We therefore urge you to reject misguided, one-sided approaches to this critical issue and to insist that the attention of the House of Representatives be reserved for comprehensive approaches that are good for the country and promote the interests of all workers.

Bruce Raynor
General President
UNITE HERE

Arturo S. Rodriguez
President
United Farm Workers
of America (UFW)

Andrew L. Stern
International President
Service Employees
International Union (SEIU)

Respectfully,



Anna Burger, Chair