September 19, 2007

Dear Senator:

Our communities will not rest until Congress enacts a comprehensive immigration reform bill that deals with all of the problems with our broken immigration system, and provides a path to earned legalization for every undocumented worker. In the meantime, with the failure to advance a broader bill in the Senate and polarization in the House over appropriations amendments, we feel it is crucial that Congress show it can do more than simply debate harsh enforcement measures. There are two bills now before Congress that, if passed, will demonstrate that our lawmakers have not abandoned the need to fix our broken immigration system. We, the undersigned labor, business, faith-based, civil rights, and immigrant advocacy organizations, call on Congress to pass these immigration bills at the earliest possible opportunity, and certainly before the session ends.

The **DREAM Act** (S. 774 and H.R. 1275) allows high-achieving young people who were brought to this country as children to earn permanent legal status over many years, if they continue their education in college or the military, show good character, and meet other requirements. This bipartisan bill would help the country by allowing talented individuals who have grown up here to fully contribute to the U.S. according to their abilities.

AgJOBS (S. 340 and H.R. 371) is supported by both agricultural producers and farm workers. It addresses employers' need for a stable, legal workforce while providing undocumented farm workers with a path to legalization, if they meet many requirements and continue working on our nation's farms. This bipartisan bill would help the U.S. by keeping our farms in operation and providing American households with access to safe, homegrown food.

We also oppose punitive immigration "enforcement" measures that scapegoat immigrants, punish small businesses, and harm workers but do nothing to enhance our nation's security, including those that have already been added to various appropriations bills in either chamber. We call on House and Senate leaders to remove these harmful provisions during conference committee negotiations, and prevent others from being attached to future bills.

Passing the DREAM Act and AgJOBS is within our grasp, and will be an important stepping stone to the broader reforms we need. Failure to pass these bills will only reinforce the public's perception that members of Congress cannot work across party lines to solve tough problems, and will further embolden immigration opponents. We must pass these two long-standing, bipartisan bills this year, even as we continue to work toward broader reforms that can fully restore order and fairness to our immigration system.

Respectfully,

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

African American Ministers in Action American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) American Immigration Lawyers Association American Jewish Committee Anti-Defamation League Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services Asian American Justice Center Asian Law Alliance Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) Center for Community Change Chamber of the Americas Church World Service, Immigration and Refugee Program Coalition for Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CCIR) Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers Coalition on Human Needs Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism Democracia Ahora Diverse Organization of Ethnicities DREAM Act Portal Educators for Fair Consideration **Episcopal Migration Ministries** Fair Immigration Reform Movement Farmworker Justice First Focus Friends Committee on National Legislation Gamaliel Foundation GIT Global HACU, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Haitian-American Grassroots Coalition (HAGC) Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) Hispanic National Mortgage Association Humanity United Group (HUG) Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) Immigration Equality International Immigrants Foundation IRISH APOSTOLATE USA Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform Japanese American Citizens League Jewish Council for Public Affairs Justice, Peace Awareness Center (JPAC) The Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund Latinos United Leadership Conference on Civil Rights League of United Latin American Citizens Legal Momentum Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) Medical Mission Sisters' Alliance for Justice Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund Migration and Refugee Services National Center for Lesbian Rights National Council of Jewish Women National Council of La Raza

National Education Association National Farm Worker Ministry National Immigration Forum National Immigration Law Center National Korean American Service & Education Consortium The National Network de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana NETWORK: A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby People For the American Way Presbyterian Church (USA) Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Sojourners/Call to Renewal UFW Foundation Union Hispana United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries United Farm Workers of America United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce United States Student Association UNITE HERE YKASEC-Empowering the Korean American Community

REGIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

<u>Alabama</u> Alabama Latin American Association, Tuscaloosa Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama

<u>Arizona</u> Arizona Interfaith Network Border Action Network CADENA Neighborhood Ministries Inc., Phoenix

<u>California</u>

Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, Los Angeles The California Association for Bilingual Education California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation Centro Latino Cuzcatlan, San Pablo Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) Comite Cesar Chavez, San Jose Comite de Padres Unidos, San Francisco Dominican Sisters of San Rafael East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Berkeley Higher Education And Realizing Dreams Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, San Francisco International Institute of the Bay Area, Oakland Irish Immigration Pastoral Center, San Francisco Korean Resource Center, Los Angeles League of United Latin American Citizens, Stockton Council #2060, Stockton Service Employees International Union, Local 721, Los Angeles SilzerLaw Chartered Stockton LULAC Youth Council #702, Stockton Student Empowerment Project, Watsonville Student Advocates for Higher Education at San Jose State University, San Jose Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring, Southern California District, Los Angeles

<u>Colorado</u>

Alianza Ministerial Hispana de Colorado, Denver Centro de los Pobres, Avondale Colorado "I Have A Dream" Foundation, Denver Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, Denver El Centro AMISTAD, Boulder H. S. Power & Light - Latino Faith Based Initiative - Denver Immigrant Legal Center of Boulder County Intercambio de Comunidades, Boulder Los Pobres Inc., Avondale Padres y Jovenes Unidos, Denver SEIU Local 105, Colorado Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN), Boulder Spirit of Christ Migrant Coalition, Denver

<u>Connecticut</u> Sagrado Corazon Catholic Parish, Windham

<u>District of Columbia</u> Korean American Coalition Washington DC Area Chapter

<u>Florida</u>

Central Florida ACORN, Orlando Colombian American Service Association -- CASA Counseling Center of Lakeview Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami/Haitian Women of Miami, Inc., Miami Farmworker Association of Florida Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Miami Florida Immigrant Coalition Hispanic Coalition, Miami LULAC Florida District # 3 Redlands Christian Migrant Association, Immokalee SEIU, Florida Public Services Union SEIU Healthcare Florida SilzerLaw Chartered

<u>Georgia</u> Coalicion de Lideres Latinos, Dalton Cobb Cherokee Immigrant Alliance GALEO Latino Community Development Fund Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO) Georgia Rural Urban Summit

<u>Idaho</u>

Idaho Community Action Network Northwest Federation of Community Organizations

<u>Illinois</u>

Big Picture High School, Chicago Casa Mexiquense, Waukegan Chicago Irish Immigrant Support, Chicago Gamaliel of Metro Chicago Hispanic Ministry - Diocese of Joliet in Kankakee Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights Korean American Resource & Cultural Center, Chicago Project IRENE Waukegan Leadership Council West Town Leadership United (WTLU)

<u>Indiana</u> Guadalupe Center United Methodist Church, Lafayette

<u>Iowa</u> Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Chapter (IA)

<u>Kansas</u>

Butler Community College HALO, El Dorado Dominican Sisters Ministry of Presence, Garden City Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee, Kansas and western Missouri MANA de Wichita People of Faith for Hospitality and Justice, Kansas City WSU Kappa Delta Chi Latina Sororitiy, Inc., Wichita

<u>Kentucky</u> UMKC The Interested Men of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc.

<u>Maine</u> Maine Council of Churches, Portland Maine People's Alliance Mano en Mano Hand in Hand, Milbridge

<u>Maryland</u> African Immigrant & Refugee Foundation CASA of Maryland, Takoma Park Korean American Coalition Washington DC Area Chapter <u>Massachusetts</u> Community Economic Development Center of SE MA, New Bedford Immigrant Informacion Center, Boston Latinos Unidos en Massachussets Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) ONE Lowell Randolph Community Partnership, Inc., Randolph Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 615, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Fall River

<u>Michigan</u>

Cristo Rey Church, Lansing The Leadership Council, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe Leadership Team, Sisters of Mercy, Detroit, Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project, Inc.

<u>Minnesota</u>

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights Office for Social Justice, Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis R. Mark Frey, Frey Law Office, St. Paul St. Ambrose of Woodbury Social Justice Committee, Woodbury St. Paul Archdiocese OSJ Immigration Action Team

<u>Missouri</u>

FOCUS St. Louis Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee, Kansas and western Missouri Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates (MIRA) St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America Westside Community Action Network Center

Montana

Northwest Federation of Community Organizations

<u>Nebraska</u> Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

<u>New Hampshire</u>

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 615, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

<u>Nevada</u> Bilingual Consulting Services, Henderson Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada <u>New Jersey</u> Diocese of Trenton, Trenton EIRENE Immigration Center, Camden First United Methodist Church, Tuckerton Latin American Organization of West Orange New Jersey Immigration Policy Network New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/New Jersey Bilingual Educators St. Anthony's Social Justice Group of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Hightstown Statewide Parent Advocacy Network of New Jersey

New Mexico

El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos Mexicano/Chicano Chamber of Commerce, Silver City New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education Somos Un Pueblo Unido, Santa Fe Southwest Creations Collaborative, Albuquerque

New York

The Blumenfeld Scholarship Fund Committee, Port Washington Cabrini Immigrant Services, New York Central American Refugee Center, Hempstead Centro Independiente de Trabajadores Agrícolas, Albion Community Journal: Jackson Heights El Centro de Hospitalidad, Staten Island Emerald Isle Immigration Center, Woodside **Empire** Justice Center The EyeOpeners: Youth Against Violence, Staten Island La Resurrección United Methodist Church, Bronx Latin American Integration Center, Woodside Law Offices of Bryan Pu-Folkes, New York Make the Road by Walking, Brooklyn New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE), Jackson Heights New York Immigration Coalition New York State Youth Leadership Council, New York Saathi of Rochester, Inc in New York St. Brigid's Casa Mary Johanna, Westbury Summerfield United Methodist Church, Port Chester

<u>North Carolina</u> North Carolina Justice Center El Pueblo, Inc. Holy Cross Catholic Church, Kernersville Hondurenos Unidos of North Carolina North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals Office of Peace and Justice, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Raleigh

<u>Ohio</u>

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), Toledo

Butler County Community Alliance, Hamilton The International Center of Greater Cincinnati Student Activists for Language and Cultural Exchange, Miami University of Ohio Su Casa Hispanic Center with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

<u>Oregon</u>

CASA of Oregon, Newberg CAUSA, Salem Corvallis Just Peace Committee of First Congregation United Church of Christ, Corvallis Latinos Unidos Siempre, Salem Northwest Federation of Community Organizations Northwest Workers Justice Project, Portland Rogue Valley Oregon Action, Medford

Pennsylvania

Mision Santa Maria, Madre de Dios Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition Pennsylvania Network of Unity Coalition SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania

<u>Puerto Rico</u> Saint Juan Diego Pastoral Center

<u>Rhode Island</u> International Institute of Rhode Island Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 615, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

<u>South Carolina</u> Digna Ochoa Center for Immigration Legal Assistance, Columbia South Carolina Christian Action Council

<u>Tennessee</u> Glenmary Commission on Justice Hispanic Organization for Progress & Education, Clarksville Law Offices of Sean Lewis, PLLC Rose Immigration Law Firm, PLC Spanish Community of Wallingford, Inc. Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC)

<u>Texas</u> Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc., Dallas Equal Justice Center, Austin Organizacion Hondurena Francisco Morazan, Houston Pax Christi Austin

<u>Utah</u> Centro de la Familia de Utah, Salt Lake City <u>Virginia</u> El Pueblo Unido Infant/Toddler Family Day Care, Fairfax Korean American Coalition Washington DC Area Chapter Law Office of Karla Harr, Arlington Shirlington Employment and Education Center, Shirlington Virginia Justice Center for Farm and Immigrant Workers, Charlottesville

<u>Washington</u> Hate Free Zone The Jubilee Center Saint Matthew/San Mateo Episcopal Church Auburn Latino American Forum of Walla Walla Northwest Federation of Community Organizations Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project

Wisconsin

Centro Hispano of Dane County, Madison Latinos United for Change and Advancement (LUChA) Students United for Immigrant Rights Voces de la Frontera