



Pennsylvania Business Council

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The Honorable Senator Pat Toomey
United State Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Toomey:

On behalf of the more than 50 senior executives who make up the Pennsylvania Business Council Policy Council, I am writing to request your support for S. 744 a.k.a. "the Gang of Eight" immigration reform legislation.

Our membership is comprised of many of the Commonwealth's largest employers, arrayed across every facet of industry in the state, from public utilities and banks to construction, manufacturing and insurance companies. We recognize and appreciate your concern that the number and allocation of work visas for both highly-skilled (H1-B) and low-skilled workers are sufficient and appropriate. We commend you for your special attention to this important piece of the immigration reform puzzle. And we understand that if this significant section of the bill is not corrected, you may not support the legislation.

However, we believe that even an imperfect bill is a significant step forward and would ask that you consider the overall need to keep our state and our country globally competitive by addressing our current immigration problems. The employer verification processes in the bill will ensure that our members are able to more easily follow the law when hiring new workers. Higher availability of H1-B high-skilled visas will ensure that we can hire workers who will best help us become even more productive.

It is our view that the U.S. should welcome those who come here to work and help grow our country's economy by serving our businesses and creating jobs. We also agree with the current legislation that whatever path to citizenship is created for those that came here illegally should include background checks, payment of all back taxes and a requirement for applicants to learn English.

We know that immigration reform is good for this country, especially our economy. It is our hope that you will recognize this as well, and correspondingly support immigration reform when it comes to the floor later this month. Thank you for your attention to this matter and all that you have done in support of Pennsylvania's business community.

Sincerely you,

David W. Patti
President & CEO