

The State of Immigration Reform



Agricultural Workforce Coalition Founding Members

- National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
- National Council of Agricultural Employers
- Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association
- United Fresh Produce Association
- Western Growers Association
- National Milk Producers Federation
- Western United Dairymen
- American Farm Bureau Federation
- USA Farmers
- American Nursery & Landscape Association
- U. S. Apple Association
- Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform
- + 59 Others
- www.agworkforcecoalition.org



U.S. Senate

- S.744 Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013
 - ❖ Comprehensive reform bill
 - ❖ Includes a specific agricultural section
 - ❖ Ag section broadens usage (includes packinghouse workers)
 - ❖ has a low cap (112,000) per year but Sec. of Ag has authority to adjust it if necessary
 - ❖ Moves the program to Dept. of Agriculture
 - ❖ Provides a path to legalization for current workforce



U.S. House of Representatives

- Approximately 92 bills introduced relating to immigration reform
- Notable: H.R.1773, Cong. Bob Goodlatte, Va. The Agricultural Employer Assured Access to Labor Act of 2013
 - ❖ Significant improvement over H-2A program
 - ❖ Hard cap of 500,000
 - ❖ Moves program to Dept. of Agriculture
 - ❖ No provisions for current undocumented workforce



U. S. House

- Bipartisan 'gang of 7' expected to introduce a comprehensive immigration reform bill
- Includes the principles of ag reform agreement included in Senate bill



What's at Stake?

- Farmers face a critical shortage of legally authorized and experienced workers.
- This negatively impacts not only our competitiveness but local economies and jobs
- Every farm worker sustains two to three off-farm but farm dependent jobs
- Landmark agreement between UFW and the Ag Workforce Coalition helps meet the labor needs of agriculture now and in the future!



- Congressman,
We urge your support for immigration reform
legislation to address this crisis!



IF YOU DON'T MAKE YOUR VOICE
HEARD

NO ONE WILL LISTEN!!

