LULAC supported the passage of the “The Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act” (S. 744), passed by the Senate in the 113th Congress. The House of Representatives did not pass the corresponding companion bill, H.R. 15, in the last Congress. LULAC urges the 114th Congress to support the reintroduction and passage of comprehensive immigration reform legislation similar to S. 744 and H.R. 15.

THE LULAC IMMIGRATION PLAN - IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION MUST INCLUDE:

- A reasonable, realistic and legal path to citizenship, which guarantees the same benefits and rights granted to native-born citizens, to avoid the creation of a 2nd class citizenry;
- Legislation that supports strong family reunification standards;
- Create an effective and practical process for enough future workers to come to the United States to meet the needs of the low and high skilled job sectors of the economy, while ensuring strong worker protections;
- Legislation that provides agricultural employers with a stable, legal labor force while protecting farmworkers from exploitative working conditions;
- Legislation that allows undocumented immigrant children who have completed high school and are of good moral character to serve in the military or be admitted to colleges and universities as residents and eligible for in-state tuition, leading to citizenship.
- STEM legislation that encourages foreign graduate students to pursue advanced STEM degrees and go into STEM careers without offsetting them with the diversity lottery; and
- Legislation that addresses our enforcement needs in a manner that is just, and consistent with our existing due process and civil rights laws. LULAC opposes Rep. McCaul’s HR 399 as a standalone bill.

LULAC SUPPORTS COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

- Absent congressional reform, LULAC supports President Obama’s use of his executive authority to take administrative action and provide immigration relief to Latino immigrant families through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) programs.

LULAC OPPOSES EFFORTS TO REPEAL OR DEFUND DACA AND DAPA – UNDERMINE PROTECTIONS FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINOR CHILDREN – REPEAL BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

- LULAC opposes any legislative language that would limit or bar the President from implementing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) programs. LULAC opposes using appropriation bills, such as the Department of Homeland Security FY2016 appropriation bill, as a vehicle to defund any aspect of President Obama’s immigration-related administrative action.
- Unaccompanied minor children fleeing violence, poverty, and instability in Latin America should be treated as refugees. LULAC opposes making changes to the Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 that would make it easier to deport refugee children.
- LULAC opposes any efforts to repeal birthright citizenship.

LULAC SUPPORTS REPEAL OF DENTENTION BED QUOTA IN DHS APPROPRIATION BILLS

- DHS appropriations bill include language funding over 34,000 ICE detention beds. Quota forces ICE to detain and lock up immigrants. Congress should strike that language from funding bills. More information:  http://grassrootsleadership.org/sites/default/files/reports/quota_report_final_digital.pdf