



League of United Latin American Citizens

August 12, 2014

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The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization in the country, I write to express our concerns regarding news reports indicating your intention to block a vote on any comprehensive immigration reform legislation. We urge you to reconsider your decision and seize on the opportunity to support historic, bipartisan immigration legislation. Absent this legislation, we strongly support President Obama's choice to use executive action to address the current crisis.

LULAC has diligently worked for years with faith based organizations, businesses, and advocacy groups of every stripe to engage and educate members of Congress on the need for bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform. While the Senate has responded by passing the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, the House of Representatives has not seized the opportunity to do the same. Meanwhile, close to two million of our brothers and sisters have been deported, separating countless families, and thousands of children, fleeing extreme poverty and violence are locked up in detention centers across the country.

The situation is dire. Current "enforcement only" strategies result in grim consequences for those attempting to enter the country, but have done nothing to address the underlying problem. Our organization is also deeply disappointed with the House's recent approval of legislation that would make it easier to deport migrant, refugee children and strip President Obama of his authority to take administrative action. These types of bills are extreme, unnecessary, and will do nothing to fix our broken immigration system or address the humanitarian crisis at the border.

Our organization continues to believe that Congress must take action to pass bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform. As you look to prepare the post-recess legislative calendar, we urge you to allow a vote on a bipartisan immigration reform bill that will address the current crisis. LULAC looks forward to working with your office to make this happen. Please feel free to have your staff contact Luis Torres, LULAC Director of Policy and Legislation, at (202) 833-6130 or at latorres@lulac.org for more information.

Sincerely,

LULAC National President

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