

*Press Release
June 8, 2007*

BUSINESS COMMUNITY CALLS FOR DEBATE AND PASSAGE OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

The Essential Worker Immigration Coalition is deeply disappointed that the Senate was unable at this time to move forward on the vitally needed bipartisan comprehensive immigration bill.

However, we take the Majority and Minority Leaders at their words that they sincerely wish to complete work on immigration reform in the near future. We are also heartened at the President's strong reaffirmation of his commitment to the issue. EWIC pledges to do everything in our power to assist in passing workable reform.

The need for reform is too critical and the work already done by Democrats and Republicans too great to give up now. Comprehensive immigration reform is essential to our national security, our economy, and to our society. Let us pledge that we will not let it fail.

The Essential Worker Immigrant Coalition (EWIC) is a broad-based coalition of national businesses and trade associations from across the industry spectrum concerned with the shortage of both semi-skilled and unskilled ("essential worker") labor. EWIC supports policies that facilitate the employment of essential workers by U.S. companies that are unable to find American workers (www.ewic.org). For further information, contact EWIC co-chairs Laura Reiff at (703) 749-1372, Randy Johnson at (202) 463-5448, John Gay at (202) 331-5912 or Craig Silvertooth at (202) 546-7584.