

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

March 17, 2010

President Obama
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

I believe comprehensive immigration reform must be an urgent priority and I pledge to work with you to advance such a proposal in 2010. It is time for us to once more stand up for our values and to continue the legacy of our country which was built by immigrants.

Major religious denominations, law enforcement leaders, the labor movement, business owners, civil rights leaders, economists, and a majority of Americans agree that the immigration system is broken, and comprehensive immigration reform is the solution for America. Getting immigration reform right is vital to *getting* our economy moving again and is crucial to farms and businesses across the country. It is also a matter of fairness and needed to ensure that millions of families will be treated with the human dignity and respect they deserve.

Comprehensive immigration reform will require all immigrants who are in the country illegally to register with the government, undergo background checks, study English, and pay taxes. It will require all employers to play by the same rules, strengthen labor rights, and restore the rule of law at the workplace. Comprehensive immigration reform will also bring fairness to the tax system and ensure that all workers and all employers are paying their fair share of taxes.

I support comprehensive immigration reform because it will restore common sense to our immigration system, so that we are once again both a nation of immigrants and a nation of laws.

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Our constituents sent us to Washington to advance practical solutions to tough problems; the broken immigration system is clearly one of these pressing issues that must be addressed. Comprehensive immigration reform is the right solution, and we look forward to working with you to advance a strong, bipartisan proposal this year.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell