

March 29, 2013

Senators McCain and Flake:

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce thanks you for your leadership in bringing comprehensive immigration reform back to the forefront of Congress.

Representing more than 800 businesses employing more than 60,000 people, we support comprehensive immigration policy reform that:

- Strengthens border security. From guarding the physical border to better tracking of expired visas, we must stem the tide of illegal immigration.
- Creates a secure, reliable system for employers to verify the legal work eligibility of employees. Employers need a federally based, user-friendly, low-cost, non-discriminatory method to ensure they are complying in good faith with the law.
- Establishes a market-based immigration process to support a wide range of workforce needs and to respond quickly to the employment demands of US businesses. Legal international workers play an integral part in the US economy.
- Develops criteria and establishes a guest worker/visa program for illegal immigrants already in the US with no other criminal record, which is based on strictly enforced criteria, including payment of penalties. Productive, integrated members of our society should be given an opportunity to continue to add to our economy.

Arizona has been caught in a maelstrom for far too long. It's time for an answer at the federal level, and we are encouraged by reports of progress and compromise. We applaud you for your insight and courage in being an integral part of a solution, and stand ready to help you in any way we can.

Best regards,

Mary Ann Miller
President/CEO