
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15—SENATORS DENIS, SMITH, ROBERSON, KIECKHEFER, KIHUEN; ATKINSON, FORD, JONES, MANENDO, PARKS, SEGERBLOM, SPEARMAN AND WOODHOUSE

APRIL 1, 2013

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN DIAZ, CARRILLO, FRIERSON, SPIEGEL, HORNE; BENITEZ-THOMPSON, BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, COHEN, FLORES, KIRKPATRICK AND NEAL

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform. (BDR R-1208)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform.

1 WHEREAS, The United States is predominantly a nation of
2 immigrants that draws strength from the diversity of its residents;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Hardworking persons who aspire to become citizens
5 of the United States have contributed to the prosperity of the State
6 of Nevada in extraordinary ways through the years; and

7 WHEREAS, The operation of a strong and vibrant democracy is
8 likely to be impeded unless all men and women, regardless of their
9 race, creed, color, ethnicity or birthplace, are able to participate
10 meaningfully in the political process with full rights and the equal
11 protection attendant thereto; and

12 WHEREAS, We believe in the human dignity of all residents of
13 the United States, regardless of their immigration status, and
14 recognize the importance of the many contributions that immigrants
15 have made to the social and economic fabric of Nevada; and



1 WHEREAS, A comprehensive approach to fixing our broken
2 immigration system would strengthen the economy of our State and
3 our nation, and would free aspiring citizens to make even greater
4 contributions to our communities, our State and our nation; and

5 WHEREAS, We support immigration reform that keeps families
6 together, upholds our values as a nation, promotes economic growth
7 and provides long-term solutions to the current problems resulting
8 from our immigration system; and

9 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a
10 significant reduction in the often unreasonable wait times and
11 arbitrary rules that keep families separated from their loved ones;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a
14 realistic pathway to citizenship for all hardworking and taxpaying
15 aspiring citizens who live in this country and meet reasonable
16 requirements; and

17 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must provide a
18 mechanism for aspiring citizens who have grown up in this country
19 to become citizens and be better able to fully contribute to our joint
20 future; and

21 WHEREAS, The reform of our nation's immigration system must
22 occur in a thoughtful manner which builds the strength and unity of
23 working people, and guarantees the same rights, obligations and
24 basic fairness for all workers, no matter their country of birth or
25 origin; and

26 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a
27 new temporary worker program that provides for strict compliance
28 with the labor standards and wage and hour requirements of the
29 United States, portability of work visas so that workers may change
30 jobs and the ability of workers to petition for permanent residency;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, The enforcement provisions which accompany
33 comprehensive immigration reform must restore respect for the law
34 by promoting strict adherence to our nation's values, including due
35 process, civil and human rights, accountability and proportionality;
36 and

37 WHEREAS, The focus of law enforcement, both within and at the
38 borders of the United States, should be to prevent criminals, and
39 those persons attempting to enter the country for the purpose of
40 doing harm to this nation, from entering or remaining in the United
41 States; and

42 WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a
43 funding stream to address the entire spectrum of fiscal impacts that
44 will be experienced by state governments as a result of programs for



1 guest workers, earned legalization and increases in the number of
2 immigrants; and

3 WHEREAS, Our federal elected officials must create an
4 immigration process that strengthens our nation's economy and
5 allows aspiring citizens to continue making contributions to our
6 communities, our State and our nation; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
8 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 77th Session of the
9 Nevada Legislature hereby urge Congress to enact comprehensive
10 immigration reform as outlined in this resolution which addresses:
11 (1) earned legal residency accompanied by a clear path to
12 citizenship; (2) the future immigration of families and workers; (3)
13 improved immigration enforcement and border security that is
14 consistent with our nation's values; and (4) a funding stream to
15 address the entire fiscal impacts on state governments; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
18 transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United
19 States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding
20 officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional
22 Delegation; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
24 passage.

