

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Coons
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2013

Senators Hatch, Klobuchar, Rubio and Coons,

The undersigned businesses and organizations, which together represent virtually every sector of the U.S. economy, share your continued goal of creating jobs and boosting the economy through manufacturing. One of the keys to achieving this goal is to continue to innovate. As a nation, we need access to the most talented engineers, scientists, and technicians; which is why we support Immigration Innovation (I2) Act of 2013 and believe it should be considered as part of comprehensive immigration reform.

Manufacturers need access to a skilled workforce at every level to remain at the forefront of research, development, and manufacturing. Many people with the advanced technical skills necessary for today's research and production jobs were not born in the United States, but are being educated here. We should do our best to encourage them to stay after graduation and help lead US manufacturers into the future. This legislation addresses the needs for additional temporary visas while also looking at the green card backlog, which are both essential to immigration reform.

In addition, we support the strong link the legislation creates between immigration and building a domestic education pipeline for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We need access to the best individuals right now, but we must do a better job of supporting STEM development for the next generation. This bill reinforces our ongoing support for improving education in the STEM fields.

The undersigned businesses look forward to working with you on this, and other aspects of immigration reform as well.

Sincerely,

AAON, Inc.
ACE Clearwater Enterprises
AGCO Corporation
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration
Institute
American Apparel & Footwear Association
American Composites Manufacturers Association

American Fiber Manufacturers Association
American Iron and Steel Institute
Ashland Inc.
Association of Washington Business
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
Cargill, Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.

Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry
Cummins Inc.
Deere & Company
Delaware State Chamber of Commerce
DuPont
Emerson
Empire Comfort Systems
F.M. Howell & Company
Fabricators and Manufacturers Association,
International
Finishing and Plating Service
General Motors
Greater North Dakota Chamber
HUSCO International
INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics
Industry
Ingersoll Rand
Jamison Door Company
Johnsonville Sausage
Koller-Craft Plastic Products
Leggett & Platt, Incorporated
Mar-Bal, Inc.
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Miles Fiberglass & Composites

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
National Association of Manufacturers
Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and
Employers Association
Precision Machined Products Association
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association
Seabrook Brothers and Sons, Inc.
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
SSAB Americas
Stella-Jones Corporation
Steven-Robert Original Desserts
Strongwell
SUMCO Phoenix Corporation
Sunnyside Corporation
Texas Association of Business
The Procter & Gamble Company
Trim-Tex, Inc.
Ultra Tech Machinery, Inc.
Unilever
United States Steel Corporation
Vent-A-Hood, Ltd
Viking Group, Inc.
Welch Allyn, Inc.
Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA)