



Statement:

Restore Due Process to America's Immigration System

The undersigned groups are committed to ensuring that the immigration system be reformed to ensure respect for fundamental due process rights. Ensuring due process in the overall system is essential to making comprehensive reform workable, effective and fair.

We support the Senate negotiators' decision to exclude several provisions included in last year's bill that would have eroded due process protections.

At the same time, more work is needed before final passage of a bill by the Congress both to address some of the proposed provisions in the bill and existing inadequacies and inequities in the law.

In particular, we urge the Congress to ensure that:

- Individuals will not be unfairly excluded from applying for legalization because of past conduct which does not merit such harsh punishment;
- Individuals will not be subject to indefinite detention solely because they cannot be returned to their country of origin, through no fault of their own;
- Individuals will not be denied legalization or deported for conduct for which they have never been tried or convicted; and
- Individuals living here who are denied legalization under the new provisions will be able to appeal their cases without obstacle and the legalization program will be reviewable by the courts without unnecessary restrictions;

We urge Congress to work to ensure that any final bill meets these goals and enact immigration reform which will be workable because it is consistent with our commitment to due process and fairness.

Organizations and Coalitions Signing This Statement
As of May 25, 2007

1. American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC): Washington, DC
2. American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): New York, NY
3. American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): Philadelphia, PA
4. American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA): Washington, DC
5. Arab American Institute (AAI): Washington, DC
6. Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS): Dearborn, MI
7. Asian American Justice Center (AAJC): Washington, DC
8. Asian Law Caucus: San Francisco, CA
9. Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition: Oakland, CA
10. Bill of Rights Defense Committee: Northampton, MA
11. Breakthrough: building human rights culture: New York, NY
12. CAUSA: Salem, OR
13. Center for Community Change (CCC): Washington, DC
14. Center for National Security Studies: Washington, DC
15. Chaya: Seattle, WA
16. Coalition for New South Carolinians: Columbia, SC
17. Community to Community Development: Bellingham, WA
18. Defending Dissent Foundation: Washington, DC
19. First Friends: Elizabeth Detention Center's Visitors Project: Elizabeth, NJ
20. Global Rights: Partners for Justice: Washington, DC
21. Greater New York Labor-Religion Coalition: New York, NY
22. Guatemalan Maya Center: Lake Worth, FL
23. Hate Free Zone: Seattle, WA
24. Hispanic Development Corporation: Newark, NJ
25. Human Rights First: New York, NY
26. Human Rights Watch: Washington, DC
27. Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM): Washington, DC
28. Idaho Community Action Network: Boise, ID
29. Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR): Chicago, IL
30. Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC): San Francisco, CA
31. Korean American Resource and Cultural Center: Chicago, IL
32. Korean Resource Center: Los Angeles, CA
33. Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Massachusetts Chapter: Watertown, MA
34. Latino Network: Portland, OR
35. Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law: Washington, DC
36. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR): Washington, DC
37. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund: Washington, DC
38. Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRAC): Boston, MA
39. Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF): Washington, DC
40. Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates: St. Louis, MO
41. Mississippi Immigrant Rights Alliance: Jackson, MS
42. Na Loio – Immigrant Rights and Public Interest Center: Honolulu, HI
43. National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers: Washington, DC

44. National Council of La Raza: Washington, DC
45. National Council of Churches USA: New York, NY
46. National Immigration Forum: Washington, DC
47. National Immigration Law Center (NILC): Los Angeles, CA
48. National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC): Los Angeles, CA
49. Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest: Lincoln, NE
50. New Jersey Immigration Policy Network: Newark, NJ
51. New York State Defenders Association Immigrant Defense Project: Brooklyn, NY
52. New York Immigration Coalition: New York, NY
53. Northwest Federation of Community Organizations: Seattle, WA
54. Oregon Peace Works: Salem, OR
55. Pakistani American Public Affairs Committee: Laurel, MD
56. Political Asylum Project of Austin: Austin, TX
57. Refugee Resource Project: Reading, PA
58. Service Employees International Union (SEIU): Washington, DC
59. Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF): Washington, DC
60. South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow (SAALT): Takoma Park, MD
61. Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC): Washington, DC
62. St. Matthew Immigration/Detention Committee: Baltimore, MD
63. Sweatshop Watch: Los Angeles, CA
64. Tenants Union of Washington State: Seattle, WA
65. Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations: Boston, MA
66. United Food and Commercial Workers International Union: Washington, DC
67. Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project: Seattle, WA
68. YKASEC - Empowering the Korean American Community: Flushing, NY