

IMMIGRANTS AND IMMIGRATION ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

Immigrants and immigration are good for our country, our communities, and our economy. New arrivals to the U.S. help drive business creation, fuel innovation, fill labor shortages, and strengthen the middle class. Family-based immigration promotes family unity and integration, all core principles of American values.

Proposed cuts to legal immigration such as the White House immigration pillars, Securing America's Future Act (H.R. 4760), and the Reforming American Immigration for a Strong Economy Act (RAISE), would slash legal immigration by nearly 50%, making it the largest cut in nearly a century. According to Penn Wharton Budget Model projections, massive cuts to legal immigration, would lead to a [2% decrease](#) in GDP by 2040, devastating our economy and fundamentally changing the nature of who we are as a nation.

The success of our country comes, in large part, from our longstanding tradition of encouraging men and women seeking a better life to leave everything they know to begin contributing to the United States. Severely limiting legal immigration puts this at risk.

We should protect and expand current immigration levels while working to pass immigration reform that makes it safer, faster and more efficient for prospective immigrants to enter the U.S. and begin contributing to our society.

THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

[3.22 million](#)

jobs created by 2024 if we pass immigration reform that makes it safer, faster and more efficient for prospective immigrants to enter the U.S. and begin contributing to our society.

[\\$1.2 trillion](#)

decrease in the federal deficit over 20 years if reforms were made to our broken immigration system.

[\\$2.18 billion](#)

increase a year to state and local tax revenues if the undocumented is granted legal status.

[\\$1 trillion](#)

added to national GDP if Dreamers were able to earn a pathway to citizenship.

[\\$400 to \\$600 billion](#)

cost to U.S. taxpayers if our current broken immigration laws were enforced and all 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States were deported.

OVER [75%](#) OF AMERICANS OPPOSE MAKING CUTS TO OUR CURRENT LEGAL IMMIGRATION LEVELS.

"I've spoken of the shining city all my political life, but I don't know if I ever quite communicated what I saw when I said it. But in my mind, it was a tall proud city built on rocks stronger than oceans, wind swept, God blessed, and teeming with people of all kinds living in harmony and peace - a city with free ports that hummed with commerce and creativity, and if there had to be city walls, the walls had doors, and the doors were open to anyone with the will and the heart to get here."

[- President Ronald Reagan, Farewell Address to the American People](#)

IMMIGRANTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

1 in 6

health-care workers in the U.S. are foreign born

\$126 billion

per year in payroll paid to American families from immigrant-owned businesses

28%

of all new small businesses started by immigrants

IMMIGRANTS ARE AN ENORMOUS BENEFIT TO THE U.S. ECONOMY, COMMUNITIES, AND OUR COUNTRY:

Immigrants start new businesses, and help existing ones grow and stay competitive; helping to protect and create jobs for Americans. Immigrants are scientists and engineers and create life saving technology and products for us all. Because immigrants live in all 50 states and DC, their economic contributions are felt all across the country.

[\\$2 trillion](#) added to the U.S. GDP in 2016 by immigrants.

[\\$3.7 trillion](#) added to housing markets nationwide.

[\\$67 billion](#) contributed to U.S. business income.

[\\$11.74 billion](#) a year in state and local taxes paid by undocumented immigrants.

[\\$123.7 billion](#) total Social Security contributions of foreign-born individuals in 2014.

[43%](#) of all recently-arrived immigrants are college graduates - compared to 29% of native-born Americans.

[40%](#) of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants and their children, employing over 10 million people worldwide.

SLASHING IMMIGRATION IS BAD FOR AMERICA AND AMERICANS:

Currently proposed cuts would exclude 22 million people from the United States over the next five decades, making it the largest cut to legal immigration since the 1920s. This would shrink our labor force and depress our economy by inflicting:

2% Decrease

in the U.S. GDP by 2040

12.5% Decrease

in U.S. economic growth

4.6 million

fewer jobs

\$1.5 trillion increase

in Social Security's unfunded obligation

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT IMMIGRANTS AND IMMIGRATION

Last year 1,470 economists sent a [letter](#) to Congress opposing cuts to legal immigration and emphasizing the economic benefits of a robust immigration system.

"The bottom line is that we can't strengthen and sustain economic growth if we don't expand and support our workforce. Nor will Americans be able to share in the benefits of growth if they are locked out of our economy."

[- Thomas Donohue,
President and CEO, U.S. Chamber
of Commerce, January 10, 2018](#)

"Immigrants are essential to the success of our country and addressing the plight of the dreamers is a top priority for this network. We are committed to working with Congress and the White House to find a solution that does this without arbitrarily reducing the number of people who come here to contribute."

[- Brian Hooks,
President of the Charles Koch
Foundation, January 27, 2018](#)

"I am one of them who believes that legal immigration is important. Even if we want to maintain our current population, we have to have legal immigration. I really am more interested in finding a way to shorten the lines..."

[- Senator Mike Rounds \(R-SD\),
February 14, 2018](#)