



Texas Association of Mexican-American  
Chambers of Commerce

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## **TAMACC POTENTIAL Q&A ITEMS – IMMIGRATION COMPROMISE IN SENATE**

### **CAN THIS COMPROMISE PASS CONGRESS?**

This bill is not perfect, but we will push it through the legislative process to make it better. This compromise is going to face stiff opposition from folks that say it doesn't go far enough, and those that say it goes too far. But, either we move forward and keep the momentum or immigration reform will die, and with that the hopes of millions of immigrant families living in fear.

### **CAN THIS PASS THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES?**

It is too soon to say, our focus is on passing in the Senate. Whether it is from unions or anti-immigrants, there are plenty of groups that will oppose the bill. That is why Latinos all across the country need to call their Senators and demand that they support this bill.

### **WHAT ABOUT FAMILY REUNIFICATION / THE ABILITY OF BRINGING IN EXTENDED FAMILY?**

We have reservations about the shift from our traditional immigration system that favors family reunification to one that gives points to skills, education and language. We are afraid it could discriminate in favor of the wealthy and educated, but it does not do away completely with reunification – children under the age of 21 and spouses will still receive a preference. For the first eight years, some 75% of legal immigration would still be family reunification. We share this concern with many of the other groups that have worked hard to lobby for immigration reform, but we cannot let perfection be the enemy of the good.

### **WHAT ABOUT GUESTWORKERS?**

We believe guest workers should also share in our American Dream and have a way to remain in this country. But, that is another part of the bill that should be improved as it moves forward.

### **WHAT DO EMPLOYERS THINK OF THIS BILL?**

We're still scrutinizing title 3 of the bill, which covers the employment verification. But, like many other organizations, we realize that this bill is not about the details ... it's about the broad strokes. And, there is no broader stroke than giving a legal status to the 12 million hard working immigrants and their employers that contribute to our economy but live in fear.

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