

REFERENCE TITLE: urging Congress; comprehensive immigration reform

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-first Legislature
Second Regular Session
2014

SCM 1007

Introduced by
Senators Gallardo, Dalessandro, Farley, Pancrazi, Tovar; Ableser, Meza;
Representative Gallego

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, President Obama and many in Congress have pledged to advocate
4 for a comprehensive reform of the United States' dysfunctional immigration
5 system; and

6 Whereas, the nation's identity is strongly associated with its promise
7 of equality, esteem for diversity and commitment to innovation; and

8 Whereas, the United States is a nation of immigrants, and the migration
9 of peoples and families to this country from all corners of the globe has
10 enriched our culture and enhanced our prosperity; and

11 Whereas, Arizona has benefited immensely from the contributions of
12 hardworking, aspiring citizens who have crossed our border or have come here
13 from distant lands; and

14 Whereas, the Members of the Arizona Legislature believe in the human
15 dignity of all Arizona residents, regardless of their immigration status, and
16 recognize the importance of immigrants' numerous contributions to the social
17 and economic fabric of the state; and

18 Whereas, immigration policy is a federal responsibility, and a
19 comprehensive approach to reforming the United States' immigration policy
20 would strengthen our economy by freeing aspiring citizens to participate more
21 fully and effectively in economic pursuits; and

22 Whereas, it should be a goal of the immigration system to keep
23 families, now divided or under constant threat of separation, together and
24 stable so that they can provide a base of support to family members in the
25 workforce, increasing worker productivity and spurring entrepreneurship; and

26 Whereas, comprehensive immigration reform must include a realistic
27 pathway to citizenship for all hardworking, law-abiding and tax-paying
28 immigrants who aspire to become citizens and who meet the requirements of the
29 federal immigration laws; and

30 Whereas, becoming a citizen of the United States means taking a solemn
31 oath to uphold our nation's Constitution; and

32 Whereas, citizenship is an important symbol of full membership and
33 participation in society that should be encouraged; and

34 Whereas, immigration reform can build strength and unity among working
35 people and will guarantee the same rights, obligations and basic fairness for
36 all workers; and

37 Whereas, a new immigration system must ensure that the future flow of
38 immigrant workers more realistically mirrors the nation's labor needs; and

39 Whereas, a new immigration system must be structured to protect the
40 wages and working conditions of all workers; and

41 Whereas, comprehensive immigration reform must have enforcement
42 mechanisms that restore respect for law by promoting strict adherence to the
43 nation's immigration laws and values of due process, civil and human rights,
44 accountability and proportionality.

1 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
2 Representatives concurring, prays:

3 1. That the Members of the 113th United States Congress enact
4 comprehensive immigration reform as outlined in this Memorial that addresses
5 the following:

6 (a) A path to citizenship.

7 (b) The creation of a new immigration system that allows immigrant
8 workers and family members to come to the United States in a safe, legal and
9 orderly manner.

10 (c) Improved immigration enforcement and border security that is
11 consistent with our nation's laws.

12 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy
13 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
14 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from
15 the State of Arizona.