

March 21, 2013

The Honorable Mazie Hirono  
United States Senate  
B-40E Dirksen  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hirono:

We, the undersigned organizations, thank you and your Senate colleagues for the letter to the Senate Gang of Eight, sent on March 20, 2013. Your letter, correctly, emphasizes the importance of family reunification to comprehensive immigration reform. We appreciate your strong leadership on this issue and for speaking out on behalf of the many families that are forced to live apart for years, sometimes decades.

We are hopeful that our family-based immigration system is updated and improved as Congress works toward commonsense immigration reform. As your letter noted, family-based immigration is important, not just to individual families, but to our country's overall well-being. We know that family-based immigrants make valuable economic contributions and enhance America's competitiveness. Reuniting families should continue to be at the core of our immigration system, and we urge Congress to make families a priority. We look forward to working with you on this issue and other important issues impacting immigrants and their families.

Sincerely,

Asian American Institute, member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice  
Arab American Institute  
Asian American Justice Center, member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice  
Americans for Immigrant Justice  
AFL-CIO  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Immigration Lawyers Association  
American Jewish Committee  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA)  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center, member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice  
Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations  
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Alliance San Diego  
Boat People SOS  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Refugee & Immigration Ministries

Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach  
CASA de Maryland  
Center for Community Change  
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)  
Church World Service  
Detention Watch Network  
Franciscan Action Network  
Farmworker Justice  
First Focus  
HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society)  
Hmong National Development  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights  
Immigration Equality  
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota  
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers  
of America (UAW)  
Japanese American Citizens League  
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)  
Laotian American National Alliance (LANA)  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. (LEAP)  
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service  
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)  
National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association  
National Association of Asian American Professionals  
National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)  
NAPAFASA  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum  
National CAPACD  
National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians  
National Day Laborer Organizing Network  
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)  
National Employment Law Project  
National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA)  
National Immigration Forum  
National Immigrant Justice Center  
National Immigration Law Center  
NQAPIA  
New York Immigration Coalition  
OneAmerica  
South Asian Americans Leading Together  
Service Employees International Union  
The Advocates for Human Rights  
The Episcopal Church

The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas  
United Food and Commercial Workers  
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society  
UFW Foundation  
We Belong Together: Women for Common Sense Immigration Reform

Cc: Sen. Barbara Boxer  
Sen. Sherrod Brown  
Sen. Tom Harkin  
Sen. Brian Schatz  
Sen. Al Franken  
Sen. Elizabeth Warren