United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 9, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid Majority Leader United States Capitol Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid:

As supporters of comprehensive immigration reform, we appreciate your willingness to dedicate several weeks for the Senate to consider this crucial issue. We are committed to working with you and our colleagues to enact comprehensive reforms this year.

Over the past several months, a bipartisan group of senators have been working with the White House to draft legislation that will secure our borders, enact a workable employment verification system, bring millions of undocumented workers out of the shadows, and create a system to match foreign workers with jobs that have gone unfilled by Americans. Despite the complicated nature of these discussions, we are making substantial progress.

At a press conference today, you announced that you plan to begin the process of bringing comprehensive immigration reform before the Senate by using Rule XIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. We urge you to allow these important bipartisan discussions to continue by delaying your efforts to move forward with legislative proposals that have failed to be signed into law in the past.

We are united in our resolve to enact comprehensive immigration reform this year and will only support moving forward with legislation that is a product of the ongoing bipartisan discussions. Now is the time for the Senate to focus on new bipartisan proposals to enact comprehensive immigration reform.

We appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you to ensure we have a fair and workable immigration system.

Sincerely,

John McCain

United States Senator

Mel Marti

United States Senator

United States Senator

Lindsey O. Graham United States Senator