



VIA FACSIMILE

June 26, 2007

Members of the United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

The Human Resource Initiative for a Legal Workforce, a coalition of human resource professionals from thousands of small and large U.S. employers urge you to support the Grassley-Baucus-Obama amendment to the Senate Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act, S. 1639.

Grassley-Baucus-Obama makes essential changes to Title III of S. 1639. Among those changes, the amendment removes the requirement that the legal status of all U.S. workers be “re-verified.” This unnecessary provision would subject 146 million American workers to the “Basic Pilot” verification system, which fails to confirm at least eight percent of the inquiries received from only 16,000 employers currently using the system. The Social Security Administration has stated that its database is inaccurate for over four percent of current employees. This data suggest that millions of employees could be inaccurately denied authorization to continue working under S. 1639.

Our sole focus is on the worksite verification portion of S. 1639. We have urged the Senate to include stronger and more workable provisions to help ensure that only authorized workers can enter the U.S. workforce. This amendment is a strong step in the right direction.

The HR Initiative advocates a secure electronic employment verification system that would verify identity through the use of state-of-the-art technology. Our proposal will take the guesswork out of employment verification while protecting the identity and personal information of legal workers and preventing national origin or other related discrimination in the verification process. Further details are available at www.legal-workforce.org.

We support the Senate’s commitment to address this important issue, including worksite enforcement reform. As Congress continues to craft immigration reform legislation, we look forward to working to improve and strengthen the employment verification process.

Respectfully,

Human Resource Initiative for a Legal Workforce