February 13, 2018

Dear Member of Congress:

We the undersigned businesses, business leaders, and business organizations write to support immigration policies that strengthen and keep families together. As Congress considers a legislative solution to address the situation of undocumented individuals who were brought to American as young children, we urge you to keep the solution as narrow as possible.

We gratefully contribute to the economy and help create jobs. We are committed to ensuring that the U.S. economy remains the strongest in the world. We support having a robust process to ensure that we have an immigration system that meets our nation's 21st century needs that is separate from the issue of the DACA recipients. While we support the current effort to fix our immigration system, we urge Congress to maintain policies that strengthen families.

We value our American and immigrant workers. Our workers are the backbone of our companies and without them we cannot run our businesses and fully compete. We need to be able to recruit and retain talented and qualified employees so that we can continue to grow the American economy. We also need to be able to compete with other companies, including those in other countries.

For businesses that recruit potential employees from other countries, we believe that they see their ability to bring their families with them as an added benefit and helps with our recruiting. At a time when we compete with other countries for talent, we cannot afford to lose out because our immigration policies are more restrictive.

Immigration policies that allow families to stay together are beneficial to our country. Family based immigration accounts for about two-thirds of the total number of immigrants who come to the U.S. each year. Family-based immigrants bring different levels of work skills but in recent years almost half (48 percent) of recent immigrants had a college degree. Family members can help immigrants integrate and navigate the job search process allowing them to enter the workforce more quickly. We know that our employees who have family support are better, more reliable employees.

We thank you for your service to our country and are ready to work with you to pursue immigration policies that benefit employers and American workers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

## Organization

Azusa Pacific University Chase Marketing Group Chinese Community Center Inc. Downtown Alliance Evangel University Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel Association Greater Seattle Business Association Greenville University Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce ICN Foundation of Grand Rapids Idaho Dairyman's Association ImmigrationWorks USA North Bay Leadership Council Northwest University NYS Restaurant Association Salt Lake Chamber San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Santa Cruz Area Chamber of Commerce SC Test Prep Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce **Texas Border Coalition** University of the Southwest Whitworth University

## Individuals (affiliation for identification purposes only)

Neil Alvarado, Director, Skyline Soccer Association José Andrés, Chef/Owner, ThinkFoodGroup and minibar by José Andrés Robin Baker, President, George Fox University Carl Balsam, Interim President, North Park University Lane Beattie, President & CEO, Salt Lake Chamber Bob Brower, President, Point Loma Nazarene University Rita Fields, Professor, Madonna University, School of Business Hemali Gajaria, AVP Marketing, Tech CU Jason Mathis, Executive Director, Downtown Alliance Shirley Mullen, President, Houghton College Les Pitton, President & CEO, Healthcare Council of the National Capital Area Timothy Wheelwright. Shareholder, Durham Jones & Pinegar Joseph Womack, President, Northwest Christian University