

AFFIRM

Alliance for Fair Federal Immigration Reform of Minnesota

We AFFIRM the rights of immigrants, AFFIRM the contribution they make to our economy, and promote fair immigration policy and legislation.

AFFIRM is an alliance of immigrant groups, religious and labor organizations, lawyers and legal services, advocacy organizations, and businesses working together to advocate for fair immigration legislation and policy at the local, state, and federal level that respects and protects immigrants.

2007 Policy Agenda

Response to Federal Issues: pursue a House and Senate resolution in support of Federal Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR). Encourage legislative leaders to deliver a strong message to the Congressional Delegation in support of CIR (HF 771 Mariani, SF 886 Vickerman)

State Commission on New Minnesotans: support the development of a state commission on new Minnesotans that would be charged with studying the issue of immigration, the possibilities of state action on immigration, the realities of the federal immigration debate, and the costs and contributions of immigrants in order to inform a set of bi-partisan policy proposals that can be offered in the 2008 legislative session. The Commission should include members of the legislature, state officials, academia, law enforcement, business, community members, immigrants, students and other stakeholders (HF 1315 Hamilton, SF 1081 Rest)

Citizenship: encourage new immigrants to attain citizenship by providing a refundable tax credit that offsets citizenship application fees and other qualified expenses (HF 747 Simon, SF 830 Lynch)

Education: promote policies which encourage and support immigrants wanting to continue their education to increase their workforce participation, attain self-sufficiency and contribute to the community through

- increased resources for Adult Basic Ed and English Language Learning; (HF 979 Winkler, SF 923 Torres Ray)
- passage of the Mn Dream Act (HF 722 Mariani, SF 653 Pappas)

Health: ensure that health programs serving low-income and uninsured individuals are available to all residents of Minnesota, including immigrants. Protect the inclusion of “all Minnesota children” in the Children’s Health Security Act, regardless of immigrant status.

Public Safety: ensure public safety for immigrants and the entire community through

- access to driver’s training, licensing and insurance for undocumented immigrants;
- ensuring that federal immigration enforcement duties are not transferred to local law enforcement; and
- oppose enactment and implementation of Real ID. (HF 1438 Mariani, SF 984 Moua)

For more information or questions please contact:

Susie Brown

Susie.brown@fcsmn.org

612.341.1615

or

Andrea Ayres

Andrea.ayres@fcsmn.org

612.341.1647