

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.

AFFIRM State Legislative Update

March 13, 2007

AFFIRM is currently working on four pieces of legislation at a state level.

Mn Dream Act (SF 653, HF 0722)

Senate: Should reach the floor for consideration next week. The MN Immigrant Freedom Network has released key senators to contact.

House: Awaiting a hearing in the Higher Ed & Work Force Development Policy & Finance Division (Chair – Rukavina). There is concern that leadership won't give the bill a hearing on the floor. AFFIRM will be discussing lobbying efforts focused on House Leadership to encourage a hearing.

Resolution in support of CIR (SF 886, HF 771)

Senate: Awaiting a hearing in Business, Industry and Jobs (Chair- Metzen)

House: Passed with unanimous support from Higher Ed & Workforce Development (Chair – Rukavina). Unsure if it will be given a floor hearing.

Citizenship Tax Credit (SF 830, HF 747)

Senate: Held hearing on March 7th, bill held over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill.

House: Held hearing on March 12th, bill held over for possible inclusion in omnibus bill.

State Commission on New Minnesotans (SF 1081, HF 1315)

Senate: Passed out of State & Local Govt. Operations on March 8th with supportive testimony from the Chamber of Commerce. To be heard in Rules committee March 13th)

House: Awaiting a hearing in Government Operations, Reform, Technology & Elections (Chair – Pelowski)

AFFIRM will also be working on a resolution detailing Minnesota's opposition to the REAL ID federal legislation. Other initiatives may include advocating for driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants and ensuring undocumented immigrant children are included in any "cover all kids" health care bill.

First committee deadline is March 23rd (3/28 for policy & finance).

Prepared by: AFFIRM Legislative Committee. For more information, please contact Patrick Ness at nessp@archspm.org.