

Immigration Reform: Moving Our Economy Forward

Immigration reform would benefit IL and US economy

Immigration reform would **generate \$1.5 trillion** in economic gains for the US over the next ten years and boost Illinois' economic output by **\$1.8 billion**. It would also reduce the nation's deficit by **\$1.2 trillion** according to a report by the Bipartisan Policy Center.

Mass deportation, in contrast, could cost the US economy 2.6 trillion. Deporting all undocumented immigrants would **cost Illinois \$11.4 billion** in economic output, and nearly 120,000 jobs.

Immigrants create jobs for U.S. workers

According to the American Action Network, immigration reform would **create over 6 million new jobs** in the U.S. over the next 20 years, including an estimated **105,923 new jobs in Illinois**.

Every 100 immigrants who earn advanced degrees in the US and then stay to work in technical fields **create 262 jobs for U.S. workers**. This is talent America needs to nurture and retain, not expel.

Immigration reform means more tax revenue

Immigration reform would generate **\$48 billion** in new federal tax revenue over the next ten years.

Undocumented immigrants already pay **\$11 billion** in state and local taxes each year, including **\$500 million in Illinois**. Sales taxes account for **\$8.4 billion of the \$11 billion**.

About 75% of undocumented workers already pay payroll taxes. These workers pay **\$15 billion each year into Social Security**, accounting for **\$150 billion of the \$1.7 trillion in the Social Security Trust Fund**.

Immigration reform advances U.S. competitiveness

According to the Partnership for a New American Economy, more than three out of four patents produced by top American universities in 2011 had an immigrant inventor, including **90 percent of patents** from the University of Illinois. Our state's 31,000 foreign students contributed **\$869 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees and living expenses in 2009-2010.

Every 100 immigrants who earn advanced degrees in the US and then stay to work in technical fields **create 262 jobs** for American workers. **One quarter of high-tech startups** have at least one immigrant founder. This is talent America needs to nurture and retain, not expel.

A path to citizenship creates more economic activity

Compared to legal status alone, providing an earned path to citizenship to currently undocumented workers would, over 10 years, result in **\$568 billion more GDP**, and **\$321 billion more total income**. An estimated **820,000 more total jobs** would be created, and federal and state governments would gain **\$75 billion in additional tax revenue**.

