



December 3, 2014

Dear Representative:

On behalf of SEIU's 2 million members I urge you to vote against H.R. 5759, the Executive Amnesty Prevention Act of 2014 if it is brought to the House floor for a vote. This ill-considered and poorly drafted bill appears to be intended to eliminate the President's discretion to set rational immigration enforcement priorities or protect immigrants from deportation no matter how long they have been here, what ties they have established, and how much hardship their removal would inflict.

If enacted, such a policy would have a cruel impact on many U.S. citizens, including many who are cared for, fed, and supported by undocumented immigrants who have worked hard and lived in the U.S. for many years. SEIU members know the devastation caused by our broken immigration system first hand. We've seen how employers are able to manipulate immigrant vulnerability to deter workers from asserting their basic rights to a minimum wage, health and safety, and collective bargaining. America's workers need and demand a level playing field.

The actions the President announced in November are the apparent reason H.R. 5759 is being brought to the floor are *well* within his legal authority. As the Supreme Court said just a few years ago, "[a] principal feature of the removal system is the broad discretion entrusted to immigration officials." President Obama not only has the right, but also the obligation, to set priorities within the broad parameters set by the law and Constitution, and every president since President Eisenhower has used this same authority.

The administrative reforms announced by the President are necessary for the wellbeing of America's working people. Without these reforms, families will continue to be torn apart, communities divided, our economy held back, and homeland security resources wasted on good people who pose absolutely no threat.

It is tragic that the House now may find the time to vote on H.R. 5759, which is intended to prevent the President from making critical but partial improvements, while continuing to obstruct bipartisan legislation that holds the promise of making the more comprehensive changes that our nation desperately needs.

SEIU urges you to vote no on this bill and may add votes on H.R. 5759 to our Legislative Scorecard, located at www.seiu.org.

Sincerely,

Steph Sterling
Legislative Director

SS:JB:bq
opeiu#2
afl-cio,clc

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Executive Vice President

SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
CTW, CLC

1800 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036

202.730.7000
www.SEIU.org