



March 18, 2015

FIRM Statement of Opposition to H.R. 1148, The Michael J. Davis, Jr. in Honor Of State And Local Law Enforcement Act

We write on behalf of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM), the largest coalition of grassroots immigrant rights organizations in the nation, to express our opposition to H.R. 1148, The Michael J. Davis, Jr. in Honor Of State And Local Law Enforcement Act under consideration by the U.S. House Judiciary Committee this week. This bill, whose extreme anti-immigrant provisions amount to a mass deportation strategy, contravenes the very core of who we are as a nation.

The American people value keeping families together and believe in the promise of a better future for hardworking folks. There is also strong support, shown consistently in public opinion polling for comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship. Most of all, the public is looking for solutions from Congress, not extremist, backward proposals focused on mass deportation like those included in this bill. Yet, the Republican-controlled Congress is determined to push these anti-immigrant and anti-family proposals *ad nauseam*. This week alone, the House and Senate will hold a total of six hearings on immigration. Not a single one will address how to actually fix our immigration system.

Just over a year ago House Speaker John Boehner offered a set of principles for immigration reform that would have created a pathway to legal status for many of the same people that the bill under consideration by the House Judiciary Committee seeks to deport. The extremist elements of his party worked to undermine Speaker Boehner's attempts at moving immigration reform at that time and have since achieved little more than proving to the nation that they are incapable of offering real solutions. They have demonstrated time and time again that they are more focused on attacking the President and our families than on doing what's right for America.

We urge Congress to put an end to these political games and work with us to fix our immigration system. The country needs real solutions, not politics as usual.

Sincerely,

Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice, ACIJ
Alliance for a Just Society, AJS

Arkansas United Community Coalition, AUCC
CASA de Maryland
CASA de Virginia
Causa Oregon
Center for Community Change, CCC
Center for Popular Democracy, CPD
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights Los Angeles, CHIRLA
Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, CIRC
Comunidades Unidas, CU, Utah
Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas, COFEM
EL CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos, New Mexico
Florida Immigrant Coalition, FLIC
Idaho Community Action Network, ICAN
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, ICIRR
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, Iowa CCI
Junta for Progressive Action, JUNTA, Connecticut
Latin American Coalition, LAC, North Carolina
Maine People's Alliance
Make The Road New York
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugees Advocacy Coalition, MIRA
Michigan United
National Korean American Services and Educational Consortium, NAKASEC
National Partnership for New Americans, NPNA
National People's Action, NPA
Nebraska Appleseed
New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrant Rights-MIRA
New York Immigration Coalition, NYIC
One America, Washington
Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition, PICC
Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noreste, PCUN, Oregon
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada, PLAN
Promise Arizona, PAZ
Rights for All People, RAP, Colorado
Somos un Pueblo Unido, New Mexico
Sunflower Community Action, Kansas
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition, TIRRC
Voces de la Frontera, Wisconsin
Washington-CAN!
Workers Defense Project, WDP, Texas