# **IMMIGRATION REFORM**

## **Supporting Smarter Immigration Policy**



Florida Governor Rick Scott addresses business leaders at the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Military and Defense Summit.

#### Why It Matters to Florida

The Florida Chamber supports a consistent federal policy for immigration that protects and compliments Florida's workforce and growing economy. Immigration reform allows Florida's international ties in trade to remain strong and provides a valuable population of skilled workers.

With the recent announcement to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, the Florida Chamber of Commerce encourages Congress and the administration to work together to quickly find a legislative solution before the program expires. Without a legislative solution 800,000 DACA recipients will lose their ability to legally work, and study, leaving many Florida employers, workers, and students without certainty.

Immigration reform provides a way to jump start our economy and create jobs in the United States, recognizing that immigrants are key to the economic success of this country. Florida's economy also relies heavily on tourism, much of which comes from overseas. Streamlining processes that welcome visitors to Florida will help create a globally competitive state.

### Florida's Competitiveness Agenda

Supporting a consistent federal policy of immigration that avoids undue burden to Florida's employers and doesn't harm Florida's economy will help move our state forward. Florida's economy depends on strong international relationships for its trade, manufacturing and agriculture industries. A consistent federal policy will help Florida's employers avoid undue burdens and costs.

## The Fight for Free Enterprise Continues

As a leader of Florida's business community, we must continue to fight for a system that enables employers to fill the talent gap by taking advantage of all available skilled workers. We must continue to urge Congress to take up and pass comprehensive immigration reform measures that help to grow our economy. By supporting the continuation and expansion of both temporary and permanent visa programs for both highly skilled workers and low skilled workers, we can create a streamlined process for employment-based visas and immigration and border management systems that allow legitimate business and tourist travel across U.S. borders.

#### **ACT NOW:**

Join us in supporting reforms that will improve our competitiveness, attract and retain the best talent and the workers we need, secure our borders and keep faith with America's legacy as an open and welcoming society.

"Our state's business climate is as diverse as the people who choose to live in and visit Florida. The Florida Chamber continues to advocate for meaningful reform that will make welcoming visitors easier, increase international business relationships and help Florida's businesses become globally competitive."

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