

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NEIL L. BRADLEY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF POLICY OFFICER

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes H.R. 4760, the “Securing America’s Future Act of 2018,” because it is a fundamentally flawed approach to dealing with problems caused by the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Should this legislation be considered by the full House, the Chamber would consider including votes on it in our *How They Voted* scorecard.

Less than five weeks remain until President Trump’s deadline expires for Congress to address DACA. The Chamber has consistently declared that border security is an imperative component of immigration reform, including DACA-related legislation. However, H.R. 4760 is problematic at its core because it would target issues that go well beyond relief for Dreamers, border security, family-based migration, and diversity visa issues that President Trump and congressional leaders agreed to focus on. H.R. 4760 would inflict great harm upon the American economy.

The Chamber has substantial concerns with several portions of the bill, including provisions such as:

- **Substantial Cuts to Legal Immigration.** Such drastic reductions in legal immigration would make it exceedingly difficult for businesses, communities, and the overall economy to grow, prosper, and create jobs for American workers. Visa numbers being eliminated in certain categories should, at the very least, be offset by increases in visa numbers in other categories.
- **Agricultural Guest Worker/E-Verify.** The Chamber continues to support a mandatory E-Verify system based on the Legal Workforce Act. But as the House has previously agreed, the Chamber believes that E-Verify must be paired with a workable agriculture guest worker program. This bill breaks that agreement.
- **Criminalizing Unlawful Presence.** This type of fundamental change to immigration laws should not be considered in the absence of comprehensive immigration reform. It would turn many individuals, and not just those that are unlawfully present, into criminals overnight.
- **Insufficient Grandfathering for Backlogged Visa Applicants.** The bill would result in the vast majority of individuals who have approved petitions in the immigrant visa

categories that are being eliminated under this bill never receiving the visa for which they have already been approved. The federal government should not renege on its obligations and inform thousands of individuals that their visa approvals will no longer be honored.

Reaching an agreement that provides relief to Dreamers, improves border security, and addresses family-based migration and the diversity visa issues is a significant—but surmountable—challenge for a Congress that has been stymied for decades in its attempts to implement **any** fixes to our broken immigration system.

However, H.R. 4760 is an unbalanced, partisan approach on an issue that requires a balanced, bipartisan approach for legislative success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil L. Bradley", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil L. Bradley