

May 21, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our more than 3 million members, our Unions write to urge your support for true immigration reform, but in opposition to immigrant worker abuse. That is why our Unions have joined together to support Senator Dorgan's effort to strip out the new guestworker provision of the compromise immigration legislation.

The compromise legislation has good and bad elements, but as the *New York Times* noted just yesterday, **"The agreement fails most dismally in its temporary worker program...It offers a way in but no way up, a shameful repudiation of American tradition that will encourage exploitation – and more illegal immigration."**

This is not a deal that we would have negotiated, nor one that our members – if they had an opportunity to ratify – would accept. Neither should the United States Senate.

Senator Dorgan's amendment to eliminate the new guestworker Y visa program is the right approach at this time. With a positive plan to provide earned legalization to as many of the 12 million undocumented workers as proposed, it is hard to justify the need for an additional 400,000 – 600,000 workers at the same time. This new visa program is a Bracero-type guestworker model, forcing workers to toil in a truly temporary status with a high risk of exploitation and abuse by those seeking cheap labor. In addition, we are all aware that the current guestworker programs are badly in need of reform. Those reforms should be addressed before any broad new expansion takes place.

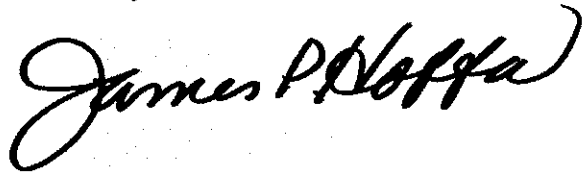
We appreciate the difficulties in brokering a compromise on this critical issue, as well as the conflicting perspectives that need to be addressed. However, on this critical issue, we have made it clear from the very beginning that an agreement which forced future immigrant workers to be obligated into indentured servitude would be anathema to us. We are disappointed that such a provision was included in the legislation, but are gratified that Senator Dorgan will be offering an amendment which will permit Senators who oppose this provision a positive vote to improve the legislation, and take a stand in support of worker's rights – both domestic workers and immigrant workers.

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We strongly support Senator Dorgan's amendment to strike the guestworker provision and urge your support for it as well.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have questions or need more information, please feel free to contact Yvette Pena Lopes of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters at 202-624-6805, Bevin Albertani of the Laborers' International Union of North America at 202-942-2272, or Michael J. Wilson of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union at 202-728-4796.

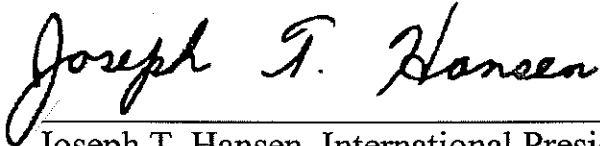
Sincerely,



James P. Hoffa, General President
International Brotherhood of Teamsters



Terence M. O' Sullivan, General President
Laborers' International Union of North America



Joseph T. Hansen, International President
United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

JPH/TMO/JTH/YPL/BA/MJW/cwl