



PARTNERSHIP FOR A  
**NEW AMERICAN  
ECONOMY**

**Media copy of letter sent to Oklahoma U.S. Congressional delegation.**

July 1, 2014

The Honorable Jim Bridenstine  
The Honorable Tom Coburn  
The Honorable Tom Cole  
The Honorable Jim Inhofe  
The Honorable James Lankford  
The Honorable Frank Lucas  
The Honorable Markwayne Mullin

As current and former Republican elected officials, we are writing to urge you to pass immigration reform this year. The current system is broken, and the United States cannot afford to wait any longer to fix it.

The system is broken for the business owners who are unable to grow their businesses due to workforce shortages. These shortages affect both high-skill and low-skill industries alike. When these industries are stifled, so is job creation for all Americans.

The system is broken for farmers who are producing below their capacity when they cannot meet their labor demands. According to the Partnership for a New American Economy (PNAE), labor shortages in the agriculture industry are causing a loss of over \$3 billion in GDP and over \$1 billion in farm income.

Not only can we no longer economically afford to wait, but there is also broad support, including Republican voters, for fixing the broken U.S. Immigration System. Recently, the Tea Party Express, Americans for Tax Reform and PNAE released a poll showing that 71% of “Tea Party” aligned Republican primary voters believe it is important to pass reform this year.

We personally understand how difficult it can be to pass complicated legislation, but it is necessary. On behalf of those farmers, ranchers, businesses and individuals in our state

supporting reform, we ask that you work with your colleagues to finalize legislation that can be passed into law this year.

Sincerely,

Frank Keating  
Governor of Oklahoma  
1995-2003

Kirk Humprheys  
Mayor, City of Oklahoma City  
1998 – 2003

Curt Roggow  
State Representative, Enid  
1998-2006

Ron Norick  
Mayor, City of Oklahoma City  
1987 – 1998

David Greenwell  
City Councilor, City of Oklahoma City  
2011 – present

Don Armes  
State Representative, Lawton  
2002 – current

Shane Jett  
State Representative, Shawnee  
2004 – 2010

Lee Denney  
State Representative, Cushing  
2004 – current

Ron Peters  
State Representative, Tulsa  
2000 – 2012

Lisa Billy  
State Representative, Purcell  
2004 – current

Kris Steele  
Speaker of the Oklahoma House,  
Shawnee  
2011 – 2012

Dale Dewitt  
State Representative, Blackwell  
2002 – current

Meg Salyer  
City Councilor, City of Oklahoma City  
2008 – Present