

Work Permits for All - H.J.R. 69

Rep. Elizabeth "Lisa" Hernandez & Sen. Karina Villa

Summary: Urges the President of the United States to authorize the establishment of a parole and work authorization program for long-term immigrant workers who are undocumented and residing in Illinois to address this State's critical need for labor and to secure the lives of tens of thousands of mixed status families in Illinois.

The U.S. is experiencing a unprecedented labor shortage affecting numerous sectors of the economy including leisure & hospitality, healthcare, and education.



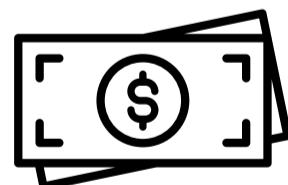
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois has on average, **76 available workers for every 100 jobs.**

Many immigrants who are undocumented and living in IL possess the skills to fill critical jobs, but lack official work authorization (work permits)*.



There are over 400,000 immigrants who are undocumented in Illinois. The working segment of this population **contributes \$1.5 billion in taxes per year.**

Granting work permits will provide a significant public benefit to the IL economy.



Shifts from the informal to the formal workforce, combined with wage gains, and **increased taxes paid by newly permitted workers equals increased revenue for the state.**

A work permit would lessen the power of unscrupulous employers to take advantage of our lowest-wage workers, who are overrepresented by workers of color and immigrant workers.

"If every unemployed person in the country found a job, we would still have 3 million open jobs." - U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Key Terms & Definitions

- Parole - Under U.S. immigration law, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) can grant "parole" to certain noncitizens to temporarily remain in the United States and apply for a work permit. It is usually granted for humanitarian reasons.
- Significant public benefit - A type of parole that is typically used to allow noncitizens to appear for and participate in a civil or criminal legal proceeding in the United States.
- Formal workforce - Refers to jobs that have specific hours and fixed wages.

*IL cannot authorize federal work permits.

**WORK PERMITS
FOR ALL!**

Supporters

Organizations & Unions

The Resurrection Project
Latino Policy Forum
Southwest Organizing Project
Hispanic Federation
American Business Immigration Coalition
Chicago Teachers Union
Chicago Community and Workers Rights
Enlace Chicago
Chicago Workers Collaborative
Erie Neighborhood House
Instituto del Progreso Latino
Chicago Workers Collaborative
Centro de Trabajadores Unidos
Centro Romero
Northwest Center
Pilsen Neighbors Community Council
Palenque LSNA
Farmworkers and Landscapers Advocacy Project (FLAP)
Children's Legal Center
Mujeres Latinas en Accion
Binational Institute for Human Development
Partners for Our Communities
Healthy Hood
Western Illinois Dreamers
North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic
Illinois Workers in Action
Family Focus
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Warehouse Workers for Justice
Metropolitan Family Services
Greater Chicago Legal Clinic
Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS)
Migrant and Immigrant Community Action (MICA) Project
Alianza Americas
Hispanic American Community Education and Services
NAIMA and Mexico en el Corazon
Chicago Commons
Unite Here
Illinois Legal Aid Online
HANA Center
Illinois Unidos
Rincon Family Services
Arden Shore Child and Family Services
Latino Union of Chicago
Association House
The Immigration Project
Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana
Spanish Community Center
Carole Robertson Center for Learning
ALMAS- Alliance of Latinos Motivating Action in the Suburbs
Shriver Center on Poverty Law
scaleLIT
St. Joseph Services
El Valor
Casa Central
Center for Changing Lives
PASO - West Suburban Action Project
United African Organization
National Coalition for Latinx with Disabilities
UnidosUS
Barakah Consulting Services
La Casa Norte
Illinois Latino Agenda
Illinois Venezuelan Alliance
OAI Inc.
Equality Illinois
Indo-American Center
LARES IIC
Mobile Migrant Health Team
Community Organizing and Family Issues

Fuerza del Sol
Immigrant Solidarity DuPage
Party for Socialism and Liberation
ANSWER Chicago
Chicago Liberation Center
Illinois Migrant Council
Belmont Cragin United
Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement
El Hogar de Niño/Brightpoint
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights (ICIRR)
Chicago Urban League
YMCA Chicago
Good Kids, Mad City

Faith-based

Rev. Beth Brown, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church
Faith Community Initiative, Chicago
Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann, Mishkan Chicago
Pastor Matt DeMateo, CEO, New Life Centers of Chicagoland
Rev. Stephen Thurston, New Covenant Baptist Church

Associations

Sam Toia, President and CEO, Illinois Restaurant Association
Sam Sanchez, Founder and CEO, Third Coast Hospitality; Former Chairman, Illinois Restaurant Association
Mark Denzler, President and CEO, Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Lou Sandoval, President and CEO, Illinois Chamber of Commerce
Jack Lavin, President and CEO, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Rob Karr, President & CEO, Illinois Retail Merchants Association
Sarah Shupenus, Executive Director, Illinois Retail and Merchants Association
Adrian Rodriguez, Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Elected Officials

County Commissioner Anthony Quezada
County Commissioner Alma Anaya
County Commissioner Maggie Trevor

Aldersperson Andre Vasquez, 40th Ward
Alderman Gilbert Villegas, 36th Ward
Alderman Byron Sigcho-Lopez, 25th Ward
Alderman Michael Rodriguez, 22nd Ward
Alderman Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, 35th Ward
Alderman Daniel La Spata, 1st Ward
Alderswoman Jeylú B. Gutiérrez, 14th Ward
Alderman William E. Hall, 6th Ward