

**Resolution of the Board of Directors Supporting Suspension of the
Immigration “90 Day Rule”**

The Partnership supports suspension of the “90-day rule” until federal lawmakers enact comprehensive immigration reform.

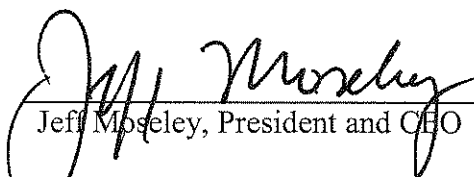
Currently, the “90-day rule” subjects employers to significant civil and criminal penalties or requires them to terminate a significant portion of their work force in many critical industries, including contractors, commercial construction, the hospitality industry, restaurants and agriculture. Enforcement of the “90-day rule” negatively effects our regional economic growth because these businesses will not be able to replace those workers within a reasonable period of time without serious disruption of business.



John D. Hofmeister, Chairman



Daniel J. Wolterman, Secretary



Jeff Moseley, President and CEO



MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 2007

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Charles Foster
Chairman, Americans for Immigration Reform (AIR)

SUBJECT: Resolution of the Board of Directors Supporting Suspension of the Immigration "90 Day Rule"

RECOMMENDATION

The Partnership supports suspension of the "90-day rule" until federal lawmakers enact comprehensive immigration reform.

Currently, the "90-day rule" subjects employers to significant civil and criminal penalties or requires them to terminate a significant portion of their work force in many critical industries including contractors, commercial construction, the hospitality industry, restaurants and agriculture. Enforcement of the "90-day rule" negatively effects our regional economic growth because these businesses will not be able to replace those workers within a reasonable period of time without serious disruption of business.

BACKGROUND

Under recent regulations, tens of thousands of employers will be given a 90-day notice that will effectively require them to terminate employees who are unable to verify their authorized legal work status as listed on a "no-match" letter from the Social Security Administration.

While this rule will affect many industries (some more than others) such as contractors, commercial construction, the hospitality industry, restaurants and agriculture, it will have a disproportionate impact on Texas and an indirect impact far beyond what most community leaders realize, including the building of our freeway system, the construction of schools, hospitals, the price of food, rental rates and employment in the restaurant and hospitality industry.

Furthermore it is quite clear that the employers of those employees being dismissed on the grounds that they are unable to obtain appropriate work authorization documentation will find it impossible to qualify that segment of the workforce within any period of time, short or long, without enactment of comprehensive immigration reform by Congress.

Houston's close economic, cultural and geographic ties with Mexico, and the estimated resident populations of legal and illegal immigrants in the 10-county Houston region, make our area more sensitive to U.S. immigration policies. Problems stemming from their illegal

status, United States' homeland security issues and U.S-Mexico relations create the need for immigration reform.

The Greater Houston Partnership recognizes that immigrants have played an important role throughout our nation's history. Our economy will depend on immigrants even more heavily in the near future, when huge numbers of aging baby boomers begin to retire. By putting the right laws in place now, we can clear up problems created by illegal immigration and take a large step toward alleviating worker shortages that surely will grow unless we act.

The Greater Houston Partnership supports comprehensive immigration reform legislation to achieve the following goals:

- Secure our borders.
- Create an efficient temporary worker program.
- Create a fast, reliable employment verification system.
- Affirm employers' accountability for hiring employees with legal status.
- Develop a process to deal with the illegal immigrants who are already here.

IMPLEMENTATION

To implement this resolution, The Partnership would communicate its support of this resolution to state and federal leadership.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

This resolution can be implemented within current budgetary constraints