



May 11, 2009

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Adam Putnam
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Howard Berman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Feinstein, Representative Putnam and Representative Berman:

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Counties (NACo), to express support for the overall goal of the “Agricultural Job Opportunities, Benefits, and Security Act of 2009” or the “AgJOBS Act of 2009”. NACo supports a sensible and orderly guestworker program for farmworkers that significantly simplifies administrative requirements for employers, provides temporary legal status and protections for migrant farmworkers and the possibility of obtaining permanent legal residence in the United States. We commend you for reintroducing the “AgJOBS Act of 2009”, which is a bipartisan bill that addresses these important concerns.

As the only national organization representing America’s counties we are acutely aware of the need for comprehensive immigration reform. NACo adopted an interim resolution at our 2009 Legislative Conference in March urging adoption of legislation similar to the AgJOBS bill of the 110th Congress because it will address a serious economic issue affecting our nation’s counties, especially our rural counties.

NACo applauds you for reintroducing the “AgJOBS Act of 2009” and seeks to partner to build bipartisan support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry E. Naake". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Larry E. Naake
Executive Director
National Association of Counties