

MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties
Fr: Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO), Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Rep. Joe Garcia (D-FL), Rep. Steven Horsford (D-NV) – chief sponsors of H.R. 15, bipartisan immigration reform
Dt: Tuesday, April 15, 2014
RE: It's Time for Rep. Peter King and Rep. Michael Grimm to Walk the Walk on Immigration Reform

“I think a comprehensive approach [to immigration reform] is long overdue...And I'm confident that the President, myself, and others can find the common ground to take care of this issue once and for all,” Speaker Boehner [said](#) in 2012. We – and the majority of Americans – couldn't agree with the Speaker more but, to date, he and the Republican leadership have not lived up to their words. But it's not too late.

Recently, House Democrats launched a #DemandAVote discharge petition to bring H.R. 15, a bipartisan immigration reform bill, to the floor for a vote. We know we have the votes to pass immigration reform in the House: 200 Members, including 3 Republicans cosponsored H.R. 15, and another 30 Republicans, including Rep. Peter King and Rep. Michael Grimm, have come out in favor of reform.

“If you're here legally, there should be a path to citizenship and so to that extent we're on the same page.”– [Rep. Peter King](#)

“Legalization ultimately leads to citizenship. That is the ultimate goal.” – [Rep. Michael Grimm](#)

Peter King and Michael Grimm have expressed support for immigration reform in the past, including a pathway to citizenship. Now we need them to join us to finish the job.

The [625,000](#) people living in the shadows – unable to fully contribute to this great state and our nation – deserve better than Congressional inaction. Failure is not just an affront to our values as a nation of immigrants, it also costs the state economy of New York to the tune of [\\$2.452 billion](#) in additional tax revenues and [8,500](#) new jobs annually.

Americans across the country are overwhelmingly calling for action on immigration reform. According to a public opinion poll, [79 percent of voters surveyed nationwide said they support comprehensive immigration reform](#). Newspaper [editorials](#) nationwide are fed up with the stalling and the excuses. Over [600 businesses](#), including the [Chamber of Commerce](#), and [religious leaders](#) have called for immediate action. And most recently, [agriculture groups](#) have grown frustrated with the House GOP's failure to act on reform.

H.R. 15 will secure our borders, unite our families, protect our workers, provide an earned pathway to citizenship, and [reduce the deficit by nearly \\$1 trillion](#).

The time to act is now. The votes are there and the means to bring immediate action – *the discharge petition* – exists. It just needs Michael Grimm and Peter King’s support. We are counting on Rep. Peter King and Rep. Michael Grimm to be courageous, take action, and live up to their promise.

It has been more than 275 days since the Senate passed its bipartisan immigration reform. Now is the time for Rep. Peter King and Rep. Michael Grimm to sign the discharge petition and demonstrate to the American people and the thousands living in New York that they want to see the House of Representatives do the same. It is time to fix our broken immigration system and restore our American values.