

## MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties  
Fr: Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO), Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA), Rep. 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. Renee Ellmers to Walk the Walk on Immigration Reform**

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“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. Renee Ellmers, have come out in favor of reform.

“The best course of action is one that provides an earned legal work status that would not be given indiscriminately. Only after this legal work status is obtained can individuals have the opportunity to begin the naturalization process – if that is their choice.” – [Rep. Renee Ellmers](#)

Renee Ellmers has expressed support for immigration reform in the past, including a pathway to citizenship. Now we need her to join us to finish the job.

The [325,000](#) 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 North Carolina to the tune of [\\$1.542 billion](#) in additional tax revenues and [5,000](#) 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 Renee Ellmers' support. We are counting on Rep. Renee Ellmers to be courageous, take action, and live up to her promise.

**It has been more than 275 days since the Senate passed its bipartisan immigration reform. Now is the time for Rep. Renee Ellmers to sign the discharge petition and demonstrate to the**

**American people and the thousands living in North Carolina that she wants to see the House of Representatives do the same. It is time to fix our broken immigration system and restore our American values.**