



IMMIGRATION POLICY CENTER

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

IPC Praises Labor Leaders' Immigration Accord

Labor's Alliance Bolsters Movement Towards Economic Recovery and Immigration Reform

April 14, 2009

Washington, DC – *Today, the nation's two major labor federations, the A.F.L.-C.I.O. and Change to Win, agreed for the first time to join forces to support comprehensive immigration reform that includes a path to citizenship for undocumented workers. The following is a statement by Angela Kelley, Director of the Immigration Policy Center (IPC) in Washington, DC.*

"Today's announcement from the country's most powerful labor federations serves as yet another signal that the momentum for immigration reform is building, and the muscle behind it is growing stronger. We applaud the leaders of the A.F.L.- C.I.O and Change to Win labor federations for providing constructive input and coming together to support a comprehensive solution to our broken immigration system.

Labor's alliance on this issue adds to increasing evidence that immigration reform and economic recovery go hand-in-hand. There is a consensus among academic and government [research](#) which shows that immigration reform that includes a path to legalization for undocumented immigrants would pay for itself in the form of increased wages, buying power, and tax contributions that would benefit all workers and businesses.

America needs a workable immigration system that balances the needs of both hard-working men and women and honest businesses. It is unacceptable to have millions working in our country in an underground economy. We neither expect to deport them, nor can we ignore the legitimate economic and family needs that attract immigrants to our country. The A.F.L. – C.I.O. and Change to Win support comprehensive immigration reform because they understand that in order to best serve the interests of America's working men and women, they must bring 12 million undocumented immigrants out of the shadows."

###

For press inquiries contact:

Wendy Sefsaf, 202-507-7524 (office) or email wsefsaf@ailf.org

Andrea Nill, 202-507-7520 (office) or email anill@ailf.org

THE IMMIGRATION POLICY CENTER

A Division of the American Immigration Law Foundation

1331 G STREET • WASHINGTON, DC 20005 • TEL: (202) 507-7500 • FAX: (202) 742-5619

www.immigrationpolicy.org