

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 30, 2010

The Honorable Hilda Solis
Secretary of Labor
200 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Madam Secretary:

We write to express our extreme disappointment with the recent advertising campaign the Department of Labor has begun to validate the unlawful employment of “undocumented workers” by asserting that they have rights to equal pay. This effort is yet another example of the misplaced priorities of the current Administration, and is an affront to hard-working American citizens and legal immigrants who struggle to compete with illegal immigrants to find employment in these difficult economic times.

The first obligation and duty of a responsible government is to its citizens. If the Administration truly wants to improve the plight of American workers as a whole, it must first strictly enforce our immigration laws, ensuring all workers are legal workers. But the message you convey in your new public service announcement (the “PSA”) is that the rights of lawful American workers facing double-digit unemployment matter less than those of the millions of illegal immigrants working in direct violation of the laws this Administration is charged with faithfully executing. This is unconscionable.

It is this tendency to pick and choose which laws to enforce that most undermines the Administration’s credibility with the American people regarding immigration. Asking the American taxpayer to foot the bill for your Department’s program to ensure illegal immigrants are paid “fairly” is asking just too much.

As such, we ask that you respond by July 14 of this year, and provide the following information and explanations regarding the PSA:

1. How much did your Department spend producing and airing the PSA? What was the total cost?
2. Who authorized the PSA?
3. How many calls has your Department received to date in response to the PSA, and at what total cost?
4. What specific action does the Department plan to take in response to each case of reported abuse?
5. Why is your Department providing employment counsel to illegal workers?

We want to be compassionate. No one within the United States' jurisdiction should exploit any other human being. But this policy provides immigrants further incentives to come into the United States illegally rather than legally, while failing to address the plight of our own unemployed citizens and other legal workers. Such inconsistent enforcement is not compassion, neither to the illegal immigrants nor the American citizens we are constitutionally obligated to serve.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We look forward to your response.

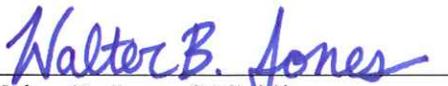
Sincerely,



Jason Chaffetz (UT-03)
Member of Congress



Dana Rohrabacher (CA-46)
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones (NC-03)
Member of Congress



Steve King (IA-05)
Member of Congress



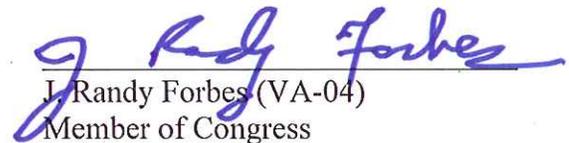
Marsha Blackburn (TN-07)
Member of Congress



John Boozman (AR-03)
Member of Congress



Gary G. Miller (CA-42)
Member of Congress



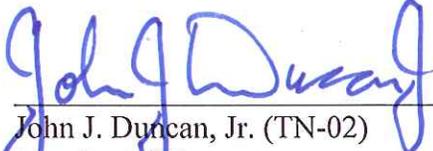
J. Randy Forbes (VA-04)
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith (TX-21)
Member of Congress



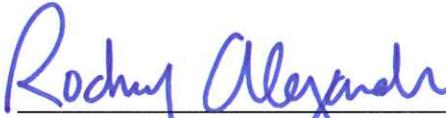
Brian P. Bilbray (CA-50)
Member of Congress


John J. Duncan, Jr. (TN-02)
Member of Congress


Edward R. Royce (CA-40)
Member of Congress


Sue Wilkins Myrick (NC-09)
Member of Congress


Howard Coble (NC-06)
Member of Congress

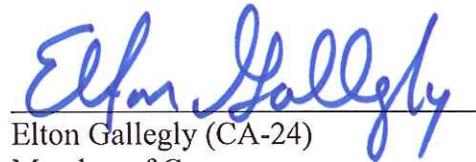

Rodney Alexander (LA-05)
Member of Congress


Robert B. Aderholt (AL-04)
Member of Congress


Todd Tiahrt (KS-04)
Member of Congress


Ginny Brown-Waite (FL-05)
Member of Congress


Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
Member of Congress


Elton Gallegly (CA-24)
Member of Congress


Spencer Bachus (AL-06)
Member of Congress


Dan Burton (IN-05)
Member of Congress