

*Press Release
January 31, 2014*

**REACTION TO THE RELEASE OF THE REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES:
IMMIGRATION REFORM IS KEY PRIORITY FOR THE HOUSE
REPUBLICANS**

2014 IS THE YEAR FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

The business community expressed its strong support for the principles laid out by the House Republican leadership this week. House Republicans have identified key principles that line up with tenets long endorsed by the Essential Worker Immigration Coalition. These principles include among other things: (i) security at our borders; (ii) a workable worksite enforcement system; (iii) a temporary worker program that will respond to the needs of our economy; and (iv) a program that will bring hardworking unauthorized immigrants out of the shadows to be considered for legal status.

We are encouraged by the importance House leadership has assigned to this issue, and we look forward to enactment of sound immigration reform legislation. This sets the stage for the House to move ahead with the immigration bills that have already passed out of committee and introduce other bills that comport with the principles. EWIC looks forward to continuing to work with the House to find a solution to the nation's immigration policy problems.

The Essential Worker Immigrant Coalition (EWIC) is a broad-based coalition of national businesses and trade associations from across the industry spectrum concerned with the shortage of both semi-skilled and unskilled ("essential worker") labor. EWIC supports policies that facilitate the employment of essential workers by U.S. companies that are unable to find American workers (www.ewic.org).