



# THE BRIEFING ROOM

*By Business. About Business. For Business.*  
**April 17, 2013**

## **Small Businesses Want Common-Sense Approach to Immigration Reform**

**Recent poll shows small businesses strongly support reform; Majority believe in expanding economic opportunities for nation through immigrants**

Urban Chamber member Branch-Hernandez & Associates, **Principal Owner Joe Hernandez** has some strong views about immigration reform:

*As a Nevada business owner, I recognize the need for broad-based immigration reform. I have never understood why we bring so many bright students from around the globe to the United States to receive an education, and then turn around and send them back to their country of origin to work in competition of the interests of the United States. So many of these highly educated, foreign-born students want to stay and live the American dream, it would seem to be common sense for us to both want and encourage them to stay. Then there are the "Dreamers" – children brought here at a young age illegally and raised and educated in our culture only to be rejected for no fault of their own. I am pleased to see both sides acting on this issue. Now we need to hold them accountable and make sure that real reform is achieved.*



**Recent scientific polling of small business owners across the country agree.** Our primary job creators recognize that immigration reform will be good for America and for small business. The poll, conducted



March 4-10, 2013 by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research and American Viewpoint on behalf of Small Business Majority, found a sweeping **88 percent of small employers agree our immigration system is broken** and needs either a complete overhaul or major improvements:

- ✓ **84% believe immigration is good for America; 66% think immigrant entrepreneurs drive business growth**
- ✓ **67% agree immigration reform will be good for small businesses by establishing a qualified, trained and stable workforce**



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The vast majority of small business owners think that creating a path to earned citizenship is the most appropriate solution for handling our country's 11 million undocumented immigrants:

- ✓ **74% believe** we would be better off if people who are in the country illegally became legal taxpayers, so they pay their fair share and can work toward citizenship in the future
- ✓ **62% agree** undocumented immigrants currently in the U.S. should be allowed to stay here
- ✓ **87% support** requiring illegal immigrants with no criminal record to register for legal status, pass a background check, learn English, pay a fine and pay taxes.

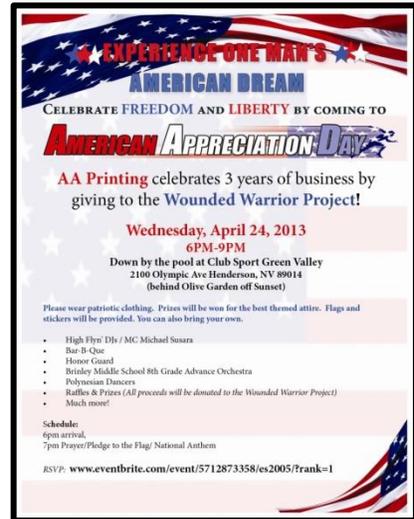
Strong majorities of small business owners think it's important to increase the amount of both high and low skilled foreign workers allowed in the U.S.:

- ✓ **74% agree** we should **allow more high skilled foreign workers** into the country legally
- ✓ **64% say** we should **allow more low skilled foreign workers** into the country legally

For the full poll visit: <http://www.smallbusinessmajority.org/small-business-research/immigration/>.

Next in *The Briefing Room*, we will feature AA Printing Service owner John Pinnington's (an Urban Chamber member) unique story as an immigrant small business owner and his opinions on comprehensive immigration reform.

On April 24<sup>th</sup>, he is hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Red, White & Blue Celebration and Fundraiser, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, at Club Sport in Henderson, NV. Numerous raffles will be held with proceeds going to the Wounded Warrior Project (<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5712873358/es2005/>).



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