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NEW REPORT – LESS-SKILLED IMMIGRANT WORKERS

WASHINGTON – Today, ImmigrationWorks USA and the American Enterprise Institute are releasing a new report, FILLING THE GAP: LESS-SKILLED IMMIGRATION IN A CHANGING ECONOMY.

With the Senate poised to begin debate on immigration reform, one of the most contentious issues is the proposed new W Visa for less-skilled temporary workers.

Does the U.S. need more less-skilled immigrants? Do they take jobs from U.S. workers? Or are they filling jobs for which there are few willing and able Americans?

A new study from ImmigrationWorks and the American Enterprise Institute uses the Census Bureau's American Community Survey and the Department of Labor's Occupational Information Network, or O*NET, to examine similarities and differences in the jobs held by low-skilled immigrants and low-skilled Americans.

Among our findings: low-skilled immigrants, many of them unauthorized, meet a vital need for employers in a broad spectrum of essential industries. Immigrants rarely compete with Americans. They bring different skills and strengths. Jobs filled by low-skilled Americans require better communications skills; those filled by low-skilled immigrants are more physically demanding. And jobs held by low-skilled immigrants support and create jobs for Americans, freeing them to move up to slots that require more communications skills and managerial ability.

As the U.S. economy becomes more technology-intensive, there is less demand for low-skilled workers. But there will always be some need, and there are increasingly few Americans available to meet it. Educational attainment, comparative advantage, physical stamina and geographic mobility position low-skilled immigrant workers to fill this critical gap. Surely it's only common sense to create a way for them to enter the U.S. legally.

To read the report, [CLICK HERE](#). To speak to IW USA president Tamar Jacoby, please call 202 480-2076.

On June 25, IW and AEI will cosponsor an event delving deeper into the issues raised in the report. Don't miss out – [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

ImmigrationWorks USA is a national federation of employers working to advance better immigration law. The network links major corporations, national trade associations and 25 state-based coalitions of small to medium-sized business owners concerned that the broken immigration system is holding back the nation's economic growth. Their shared aim: legislation that brings America's annual legal intake of foreign workers more realistically into line with the country's labor needs.