# **Support Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

#### BACKGROUND:

Today, we face the enormous challenges posed by our nation's broken immigration system. Over 11 million undocumented immigrants live in the shadows of our communities across the country. Families face up to decades long backlogs in acquiring visas, workers are left without protections, and children are left behind as parents are deported. We can no longer delay comprehensive reform of our immigration system based on streamlined processing, a commitment to obey the rule of law, payment of taxes owed, family reunification, and a path to citizenship.

# COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM MUST INCLUDE:

- **Reforms** in our family-based immigration system to significantly reduce waiting times for separated families, who currently must wait many years to be reunited with loved ones, and to reunite all family-members including siblings, children, parents and spouses;
- **Border protection** policies that are consistent with American humanitarian values and effective against illegal migration, allowing the authorities to carry out the critical task of identifying and preventing entry into the United States of terrorists and dangerous criminals;
- **Opportunities** for hard-working immigrants who are already contributing to this country to come out of the shadows, regularize their status upon satisfaction of reasonable criteria and, over time, pursue an option to become lawful permanent residents and eventually United States citizens;
- Wage and workplace protections for those already living in America and contributing to our economy and for those who migrate here;
- **Legal avenues** for both high- and low-skilled professionals and their families who wish to migrate to the U.S. to enter our country and work in a safe, legal, and orderly manner that meets the needs of employers.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

In June 2013, the <u>Senate passed the Border Security</u>, <u>Economic Opportunity</u>, and <u>Immigration Modernization Act (S. 744) with a bipartisan vote</u>. We are encouraged by many of the key provisions in the Senate's bill, cornerstones of the Reform Movement's immigration priorities. <u>It</u> is essential that legislation which moves through the House of Representatives contains similar protections and provisions.

### TAKE ACTION:

<u>Urge your Representatives</u> to support immigration reform that is truly comprehensive, and that reflects our values as Americans and as Reform Jews. The Capitol Switchboard can be reached at 202.224.3121, or you can send an email directly to your congressperson by logging onto: RAC.ORG and navigating to "Support Comprehensive Immigration Reform."

For more information, please contact Eisendrath Legislative Assistant Sarah Krinsky at 202.387.2800.





Dial 1-866-730-9344 or text "TRUSTAct" to 877-877 to connect and say: "Shanah Tovah, Governor Brown! Please Sign the TRUST Act!"

# What is the TRUST Act?

- It would end unnecessary deportations of undocumented immigrants, protect witnesses and victims of crimes as well as victims of domestic violence, keep families together, and save California taxpayers millions of dollars
- o It would restore the trust between California's immigrant communities and local law enforcement, building safer communities and a more compassionate state

When you dial the number above, you'll hear our recording with a reminder of talking points and be connected directly to the Governor's office.

- Ask for the staff member who deals with immigration issues
- o Tell them you want Governor Brown to sign the TRUST Act into law this year
- Tell them that you are calling from the Californian Reform Movement, Reform CA, as part of the TRUST Act's interfaith coalition

## Who are we?

Reform California is a campaign of the California Reform Movement to act powerfully together for justice and compassion in our state. It is a partnership between the Religious Action Center, the CCAR's Peace and Justice Committee, and the URJ's Just Congregations. Currently, we are focused on passing the TRUST Act.

To learn more about the TRUST Act and Reform CA's fight for compassionate immigration reform in our state, visit rac.org/reformca