

Vice President Infrastructure, Innovation and Human Resources Policy

Robyn Boerstling

September 27, 2019

Rep. Zoe Lofgren Chair Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship House Judiciary Committee

Rep. Ami Bera Chair Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations House Foreign Affairs Committee Rep. Ken Buck Ranking Member Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship House Judiciary Committee

Rep. Lee Zeldin Ranking Member Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations House Foreign Affairs Committee

Dear Chair Lofgren, Chair Bera, Ranking Member Buck and Ranking Member Zeldin:

Manufacturers continue to call on Congress to reform our nation's immigration system to bolster our national security, promote the rule of law and make our economy stronger. Congress must lead to reform and modernize our immigration system, and to update our laws to ensure the common values that make this nation of immigrants exceptional are upheld. The National Association of Manufacturers, the nation's largest industrial trade association, appreciates these two subcommittees' attention to recent administration actions that run contrary to these common values with this hearing, "Oversight of the Trump Administration's Muslim Ban."

The series of executive actions in 2017, which ultimately resulted in Proclamation 9645, now known as the "travel ban" or the "Muslim ban," marginalized individuals traveling to the U.S. based on religion and failed to reflect the best values that have guided our nation's immigration policy. The travel ban, and the way it was presented to the public, caused severe disruption and uncertainty for travelers, families, friends, colleagues and businesses. Manufacturers know that immigrants, regardless of their place of birth or their religious beliefs, strengthen our country, communities and workplaces. Denying entry to individuals based on misplaced fear instills division and disruption and also hurts our ability to attract talented individuals who want to be part of the American dream.

We urge you to review our immigration plan, "<u>A Way Forward</u>," which is a solutions-driven proposal designed to make our country safer and our economy stronger through comprehensive immigration reform. The United States is a nation of immigrants, and the NAM believes that our communities and our economy are strengthened by the talents and skills that these populations bring to America. Congress must work in a bipartisan manner to solve our nation's immigration challenges, support inclusion and end the division that has come to define this issue. We look forward to working with you on efforts to bring much-needed change to our immigration system.

Sincerely,

Robyn M. Boensting

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