HJC Subcommittee Hearing – July 13th, 2021 Oh, Canada! How Outdated U.S. Immigration Policies Push Top Talent to Other Countries

Thank you, Madam Chair.

I agree that to remain competitive in today's global economy, the United States cannot rely solely on domestic talent.

Through the pandemic, it's evident that immigrants get the job done and are one of the pillars of our economy.

It's clear, our outdated immigration laws and policies harm recruitment incentives.

These antiquated laws and policies have, in fact, increased wait times for green cards and backlogs as we saw before the pandemic—and have now contributed to an unprecedented surge in processing times.

As we continue to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform to accommodate our nation's most pressing needs, we must ensure that our immigration policies are rooted in our values of compassion, fairness, and opportunity.

We need an immigration system, however, that ensures employment-based green cards do not benefit one immigrant group at the expense of all others.

Our country has before delivered and received talent from different corners of the world and became a humanitarian leader.

America provided safe harbor and an opportunity in pursuit of the American Dream, and immigrants have made our country better.

America has always been a leader.

We can and MUST do better.