

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4304

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

September 28, 2006

Mr. Billy Reed
326 Baldwin Street
Grand Prairie, Texas 75052-3308

Dear Mr. Reed:

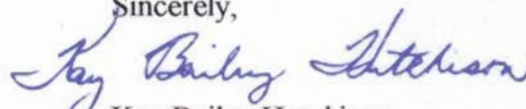
Thank you for contacting to me regarding current U.S. immigration policy and its effect on jobs in the high-tech sector. I welcome your thoughts and comments on this issue.

S. 2691, the Securing Knowledge, Innovation and Leadership Act of 2006, was introduced by Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) on May 2, 2006. H-1B programs allow a U.S. company to temporarily employ a foreign worker on a nonimmigrant basis in a specialty occupation. This legislation seeks to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to exempt from the annual H-1B visa cap an alien who has earned a master's or higher degree from an accredited U.S. university or awarded a medical specialty certification based on post-doctoral training and experience in the United States. Additionally, the Act would increase the annual H-1B cap with a 20% increase for the following year if the previous year's quota is reached. S. 2691 prohibits immigration application approval until background and security checks have been completed and any fraud allegations have been resolved.

I am a co-sponsor of the Securing Knowledge, Innovation and Leadership Act of 2006. This legislation ensures national security is not compromised while also allowing for temporary work visas, which play an important role in ensuring U.S. companies have the workers they need to succeed in an increasingly competitive global marketplace. S. 2691 has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, on which I do not serve; however, should this legislation come before the full Senate, you may be certain I will keep your views in mind.

I appreciate hearing from you and hope you will not hesitate to keep in touch on any issue of concern to you.

Sincerely,


Kay Bailey Hutchison

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