



September 13, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin:

Thank you for your efforts to make long-overdue reforms that will allow selected groups of immigrants to adjust their status to permanent residence. NRF supports these efforts and looks forward to working with you to achieve their enactment.

NRF, the world's largest retail trade association, passionately advocates for the people, brands, policies and ideas that help retail thrive. From its headquarters in Washington, D.C., NRF empowers the industry that powers the economy. Retail is the nation's largest private-sector employer, contributing \$3.9 trillion to annual GDP and supporting one in four U.S. jobs — 52 million working Americans. For over a century, NRF has been a voice for every retailer and every retail job, educating, inspiring and communicating the powerful impact retail has on local communities and global economies.

NRF has long supported legislation which would provide a path to citizenship for “dreamers,” immigrants who were brought to the country as minors and remain in good legal standing. The men and women whose status would be adjusted by this legislation are law-abiding, tax-paying Americans who have never known adult life anywhere else besides the United States.

The reforms you are proposing would not only provide a pathway to citizenship for dreamers but would go further by addressing the legal status of those here in the United States on Temporary Protected Status, as well as immigrant workers who played “essential” roles in our economy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While these reforms are an important step in addressing much-needed immigration reform, NRF further encourages Congress to move separate, comprehensive legislation to address the many flaws in our broken immigration system. The current system simply fails to

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meet our nation's needs. NRF will continue to urge Congress to expand avenues to immigration for high-skilled and low-skilled workers alike.

Given the complexities of immigration reform and its importance to the nation's economy, NRF encourages you to pursue these changes through regular order rather than through the budget reconciliation process.

NRF members believe now is the time to provide a permanent solution that will bring certainty and stability to these millions of men and women who came to the United States as minors. They have contributed to – and will continue to contribute to – our society, businesses and economy. Congress should provide them with a pathway to lawful permanent residence and ultimately American citizenship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David French".

David French  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations