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Latino Policy Forum Statement on House Immigration Bill

Chicago—October 3, 2013—House Democratic leadership released its own version of a [comprehensive immigration reform bill](#)—one that includes many of the provisions of S744, the reform bill that cleared the Senate in June, minus its controversial \$46 billion "[border surge](#)" amendment—yesterday, just ahead of a massive [march for immigrant dignity and respect](#) planned in Washington DC this weekend.

While the Forum recognizes that the bill is far from perfect—it fails to address several of the [seven principles](#) that member of its [Immigration Acuerdo](#) identified as priorities in any piece of reform legislation—it calls for a bitterly divided House to put aside partisan politics and to move forward with a vote. The will of the 218-plus Representatives ready to vote on immigration reform is being repressed by the same forces that have brought federal operations to a grinding halt for the past two days.

The country can't afford to wait to repair our long-broken immigration system: Common sense reform with a path to permanent legal status would [boost the languishing U.S. economy \\$1.5 trillion](#) over ten years. And the humanitarian call to action around reform is equally urgent: Every day the House delays a vote on reform with a path to citizenship, 1,100 people are deported, leaving hundreds of thousands of children, many of them US-born citizens, without a parent.

About the Latino Policy Forum

The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future. For more information, visit www.latinopolicyforum.org.

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