



CAUSA



MEDIA ADVISORY
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Comprehensive Immigration Reform Supporters to Rally at Senator Smith's Office TODAY

What: Rally for action on fair and just, Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Who: Oregonians including members of the immigrant, labor, faith and social justice community. Speakers will include **Tom Chamberlain, President of Oregon AFL-CIO** and faith leaders

When: Wednesday, June 6th at 5:00pm.

Where: In front of Senator Smith's Portland office, 121 SW Salmon (SW 2nd & Salmon) in downtown Portland

Why: This week the Senate is debating immigration reform and a floor vote can happen as early as Thursday. Now is the time to act!

Background:

Two weeks ago, a group of Republican and Democratic Senators announced they had reached a deal with the White House on immigration reform. Although the package responds to the demands of the immigrant rights movement for a path to citizenship for undocumented workers now in the U.S., it severely undermines the current family-based immigration system by eliminating entire categories of the family-based immigration system and establishing an unworkable "merit-based" point system for green card applications. It also creates a guestworker program with no path to citizenship, thus instituting a permanent underclass of exploitable workers.

Last week, the Senate approved a motion to proceed on the immigration debate by a vote of 69-23. This week the Senate will determine the fate of millions of immigrant workers and families.

We call on Senator Smith to stand up and defend workers, families, and citizenship. We call for passage of fair and just, Comprehensive Immigration Reform *this year* that provides a pathway to citizenship for the 12 million undocumented immigrants currently in the United States, reunites families, and protects workers and our civil liberties.

The amendments we will fight for on the Senate floor include reuniting families and providing a pathway to citizenship for all workers. Advocates will be available for up to the minute reaction to the amendment process.

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