



AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

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September 9, 2005

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
House Judiciary Committee
2449 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Sensenbrenner:

The American Immigration Lawyers Association urges you to reconsider your support for H.R. 3648, a measure that you introduced that would impose an additional fee of \$1,500 on the L visa. We oppose this mandated fee as a tax on business that will make the U.S. less competitive in our global economy; it also should not be advanced due to the need to generate revenue for the U.S. Treasury.

The L visa has been a vital tool for both U.S. companies with an international presence and international firms expanding into the U.S. In fact, it is the principal immigration vehicle foreign companies use to build U.S. factories, open offices, and hire significant numbers of U.S. workers to staff these operations. Unless foreign companies are able to bring key personnel to their American operations, they are unlikely to establish or expand their presence in this country.

With the cap reached on the H-1B visa two months before the beginning of the next fiscal year and a short-term fix on the H-2B visa due to expire next year, we look forward to working with you to develop immigration laws that help companies create jobs and invest in America.

Sincerely,

Deborah Notkin
President

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