

The Testimony of Greg Serbon
State Director
Indiana Federation for Immigration Reform and Enforcement
Speaking before the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration
Policy and Enforcement.

Thank you congressmen for letting me speak on behalf of the working class Americans.

A lot has changed since the last time I spoke before some of you in 2007.

In 2007 we had plenty of jobs and the housing market was booming and it seemed Americans were happy and working for the most part.

Fast forward to today with the unemployed or underemployed numbering as high as 20 million Americans, and the immigration floodgates are still wide open?

We are creating a permanent underclass in this country driven by immigration and the people who are suppose to represent the American citizen first.

How many poorly educated or even highly educated people do we allow into our country while millions of our own citizens languish on unemployment?

While I was doing some research for this hearing I discovered we have at least 29 visa programs that we give nonimmigrants to come and work in America.

At this point in time 40% of the illegal immigration in our country occurs when these nonimmigrant visa holders overstay their visas. These visa programs you created are too numerous and too fraud laden, yet this issue is not being addressed properly in my opinion.

We have IT workers out of work yet we issue around 85,000 H1B visas. The son of one of our members is an IT worker and couldn't find a job for a year.

This person possesses an MBA and has plenty of experience. Nobody wanted to pay him what he was worth because they know that cheaper labor is just a visa away.

I have personally witnessed immigrants being put in dangerous situations at work. I have watched as employers had immigrants use power tools such as saws and chipping hammers without any eye or face protection.

On one occasion OSHA came out to the jobsite for an inspection and most of the immigrants left until the inspection was completed. I had to stop and think...why would they leave the jobsite when a safety inspector was present? Was it because the employer didn't want to take a chance that they might perform a task unsafely? Or maybe without their required safety equipment, thereby causing a fine for the employer?

On construction sites where communication is critical and a safety issue, I run into people on the job who can't speak a word of English

I worked at a factory in late Fall 99. The building had no heat and the women that I saw working were dressed in winter clothing. The only people in that factory that spoke any English were the supervisors and of the 30 or so workers maybe one or two spoke English.

I have to find an interpreter while I'm at work from time to time just to keep the workplace safe and this is not the way it should be.

It has become increasingly difficult to find a job, and there are many good people I have worked with over the years who have not worked in months.

We need an immigration time out! The people calling for more immigration do not care one iota about the working person in this country.

As far as I can see all these employers want is cheap subservient labor.

Thank you
Greg Serbon