

March 19, 2008

The Honorable Charles Boustany
1117 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-1807

Congressman Boustany:

The Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce represents more than 800 businesses over 80% of which are small businesses. The Chamber and its Board of Directors are concerned that many of this community's small businesses will be negatively impacted by the sunseting of the exemption on H-2B visas.

The Chamber is supporting House Resolution 1843 and Senate Bill 988 which extends the H-2B returning worker exemption by removing the sunset language from the Act.

By recognizing that three years of a successful pilot program is enough to prove the worth of the returning worker exemption, the resolution and bill will help ensure that seasonal businesses can stay in business, and that the year-round American workers these businesses employ will continue to have their jobs.

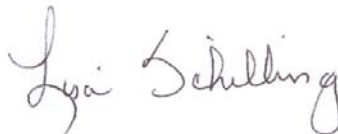
Given the shortage throughout Louisiana of seasonal, unskilled workers, this Bill is crucial for the seafood, manufacturing, hospitality and similar industries. This is a small business and economic development issue, not an immigration issue.

Thank you for your assistance on this matter. Please let me know if you or your staff has any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Drake Pothier, IOM
President & CEO
Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce



Lisa Schilling
2008 Chairman of the Board
Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce