

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

April 30, 2010

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to encourage you to keep comprehensive immigration reform at the top of your agenda.

I have talked with folks across Minnesota. Everywhere I've gone, I've heard pretty much the same thing: our immigration system is broken, it needs to be fixed, and until it is, Minnesota communities, Minnesota businesses, and most importantly, Minnesotans, will continue to suffer.

I have no illusion that the immigration debate will be easy. Our nation is facing record unemployment levels, and our border needs strengthening. That is why I believe any credible immigration proposal must contain strong, albeit humane and constitutional, enforcement policies.

But generations of Minnesotans before me have never shied away from tough problems. That's why Minnesota was the first in the nation to have a torture victims treatment center, which has been a haven for victims of oppression from around the globe. That's also why our state has such large and vibrant communities of Hmong, Somali, and Liberian refugees—not to mention our growing Latino community.

I stand ready to take up this challenge.

Sincerely,



Al Franken  
United States Senator