

FOR ADVANCE PLANNING
July 6, 2006

CONTACT: Deece Eckstein
at 512-940-3774 / deckstein@pfaw.org

Civic leaders and immigrant advocates come together to press for comprehensive immigration reform

A diverse group of organizations, united by the certainty that the nation needs comprehensive immigration reform to effectively secure its borders, will hold a press conference Friday, July 7, 2006 in Laredo.

The event will precede the hearing by the House Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Nonproliferation, which is expected to focus on the possibility of terrorist activity along the American/Mexican border. The hearing will be chaired by Republican members of Congress who support legislation passed by the House in December – an approach that relies on enforcement alone, would make felons of the undocumented workers already in the United States and would harshly penalize the businesses who hire them.

Participants at the news conference will include representatives of a cross-section of business, civil rights and religious organizations who believe that the nation needs a broader approach – one that combines enforcement with more realistic immigration quotas and a path to earned citizenship for the undocumented workers already here. Speakers will explain how comprehensive immigration reform can benefit the economy in Texas and make our nation stronger.

The press conference will be held at 9 a.m. in the Philip V Room at La Posada Hotel, 1000 Zaragoza St. Laredo, TX..

Some of the organizations involved in the press conference include:

American Civil Liberties Union
American Immigration Lawyers Association
APSS – Centro Aztlán, Inc.
Christian Life Commission
Coalition for Comprehensive Immigration Reform, D.C.
Hispanic Baptist Convención
International Bank of Commerce
Laredo Chamber of Commerce
Manhattan Institute
Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund
People for the American Way (Texas/Southwest Office)
Texas Nursery and Landscape Association
Texas Produce Association
Texas Vegetable Association

What: Comprehensive Immigration Reform Press Conference

When: 9 a.m.
Friday, July 7, 2006

Where: Philip V Room
La Posada Hotel
1000 Zaragoza St.
Laredo, TX

###