



July 1, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National Restaurant Association and our state restaurant association partners, thank you for recognizing the workforce challenges facing key sectors like agriculture, leisure, and hospitality. Within this broader landscape, the restaurant industry stands as a powerful economic engine – generating over \$1.4 trillion in annual economic activity and supporting more than 15 million jobs nationwide, more than any other sector in hospitality. Restaurants do not only feed communities – they anchor local economies, serve as the nation’s leading first-job provider, and play a vital role in the American food supply chain by ensuring affordable, accessible, and domestically produced meals for millions of consumers every day.

As you recognize, the workforce challenges facing farms and hotels also extend to the restaurant industry. Restaurant operators, farms, and hotels rely on longtime, law-abiding workers in order to better serve our national food and hospitality supply chain.

Today, there are more than 1 million unfilled jobs in the foodservice and hotel industries. Nearly one in three restaurant operators report they lack sufficient employees to meet customer demand, and 77% struggle to hire and retain staff. These shortages limit operating hours, reduce services, and strain restaurant operators and the communities they serve across the country.

We respectfully urge you to consider the following actions:

- Exercise your authority strategically by prioritizing the removal of individuals who pose a threat to national security and public safety.
- Partner with our industry to implement targeted workforce solutions, ensuring sectors like agriculture, hospitality, and foodservice can hire and retain essential immigrant workers.
- Consider deferred action with work authorization on a select basis for long-serving employees who pass background checks, pay taxes, and meet rigorous vetting standards. This targeted relief has precedent and would provide continuity and workforce stability.
- Advance long-term immigration reform with Congress to support individuals who contribute to our economy and aspire to build a better future through hard work.

We welcome the opportunity to engage with your Administration on immigration solutions that will strengthen America's workforce, economy, and food supply. Like you, we believe we can secure our border, improve public safety, and protect the workforce our economy needs to thrive.

Respectfully yours,



Michelle L. Korsmo  
President & CEO  
National Restaurant Association

Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Association  
Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant and Retailers Association  
Arizona Restaurant Association  
Arkansas Hospitality Association  
California Restaurant Association  
Colorado Restaurant Association  
Connecticut Restaurant Association  
Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington  
Delaware Restaurant Association  
Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association  
Georgia Restaurant Association  
Hawaii Restaurant Association  
Idaho Lodging & Restaurant Association  
Illinois Restaurant Association  
Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association  
Iowa Restaurant Association  
Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association  
Kentucky Restaurant Association  
Louisiana Restaurant Association  
Hospitality Maine  
Restaurant Association of Maryland  
Massachusetts Restaurant Association  
Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association  
Hospitality Minnesota  
Mississippi Hospitality and Restaurant Association  
Missouri Restaurant Association  
Montana Restaurant Association  
Nebraska Hospitality Association  
Nevada Restaurant Association  
New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Association  
New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association  
New Mexico Restaurant Association  
New York State Restaurant Association  
North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association

North Dakota Hospitality Association  
Ohio Restaurant & Hospitality Alliance  
Oklahoma Restaurant Association  
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association  
Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association  
Asociación de Restaurantes de Puerto Rico  
Rhode Island Hospitality Association  
South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association  
South Dakota Retailers Association  
Tennessee Hospitality & Tourism Association  
Texas Restaurant Association  
Utah Restaurant Association  
Vermont Chamber of Commerce  
Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, & Travel Association  
Washington Hospitality Association  
West Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association  
Wisconsin Restaurant Association  
Wyoming Hospitality and Travel Coalition