

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

October 16, 2015

RE: The Protect Our Workers from Exploitation and Retaliation Act

Dear Member of Congress,

Our organizations support the Protect Our Workers from Exploitation and Retaliation Act (“POWER” Act) because it would help ensure that all workers, immigrants and citizens alike, can work free from retaliation, threats, and mistreatment. We urge you to support this bill.

Too often, when immigrant workers assert their labor rights or organize for better working conditions, they face threats and retaliation from their employer. Unscrupulous employers use the threat of immigration enforcement and the prospect of deportation to intimidate workers. This retaliation undercuts workers’ ability to enforce their rights and results in more dangerous workplaces and lower wages for all workers.

The POWER Act would address this problem by providing key immigration protections to workers who file complaints or assist investigations of labor and civil rights violations and who reasonably fear or have been victims of employer retaliation. In so doing, the POWER Act will strengthen the ability of workers and of government agencies to ensure that all employers comply with labor and employment laws.

Support for the POWER Act is growing. We represent a broad and diverse cross-section of labor, civil rights, and immigrants’ rights organizations who, collectively, represent millions of working people across the United States. In addition, the bill (as introduced in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress) has been endorsed on the editorial pages of the [New York Times](#) and the [Los Angeles Times](#).

We support the POWER Act and the crucial protections that it would provide to workers. We urge you to co-sponsor this bill. To do so, please contact Liliana Rocha in Representative Judy Chu’s office at [Liliana.Rocha@mail.house.gov](mailto:Liliana.Rocha@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

9to5, National Association of Working Women  
Alliance for a Just Society  
American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)  
American Federation of Teachers  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC) (formerly Asian American Justice Center)  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus (formerly Asian Law Caucus)

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (formerly Asian Pacific American Legal Center)  
ASISTA  
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)  
California Immigrant Policy Center  
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation  
Caring Across Generations  
Centro Avance  
Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.  
Center for Community Change  
Chicago Teamsters Hispanic Caucus  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)  
DC Employment Justice Center  
Dream Team LA  
Employee Rights Center  
Enlace International  
Farmworker Justice  
Friends of Farmworkers  
Global Workers Justice Alliance  
Hispanic Federation  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights  
Immigrant Legal Resource Center  
Immigrant Youth Coalition, Los Angeles, CA  
Immigration Center for Women and Children  
Jobs with Justice  
Kitsap Immigrant Assistance Center  
Korean American Resource & Cultural Center, Chicago, IL  
Korean Resource Center, Los Angeles, CA  
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance, Los Angeles, CA  
LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
Legal Aid Society - Employment Law Center  
Maintenance Cooperation Trust Fund (MCTF)  
MAIZ  
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition  
MFY Legal Services, Inc.  
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)  
National Day Laborer Organizing Network  
National Domestic Workers Alliance  
National Employment Law Project  
National Guestworker Alliance  
National Immigrant Justice Center  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Korean American Service and Education Consortium

National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA)  
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
New York Immigration Coalition  
North Carolina Justice Center  
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project  
Northwest Workers' Justice Project  
OneAmerica  
Pangea Legal Services  
Public Justice Center  
Reformed Church of Highland Park, NJ  
South Asian Network  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Stop the Checkpoints  
The Legal Aid Society (NYC)  
UCLA Labor Center, Los Angeles, CA  
UFCW Local 880  
UFCW International Union  
UNITE HERE International Union  
United Farm Workers (UFW)  
Voz Hispana Cambio Comunitaria  
Worker Justice Center of New York  
Workers Defense Project  
Workplace Fairness