

140 West Street, 29th Floor New York, NY 10007

March 4, 2013

Senator Charles Schumer United States Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

Verizon is encouraged by the positive steps you and other leaders in Congress are taking toward reforming our immigration policy. I wanted to let you know of Verizon's support for comprehensive immigration reform.

Verizon supports comprehensive immigration reform because we believe that such reform is a critical step in re-igniting economic growth in America. The current immigration system is a clear drag on our economy. The costs in underdeveloped human capital, lost productivity, and wasted resources undoubtedly run into the billions. As a technology company, we seek to attract to America those with engineering, scientific, and technological expertise to participate in the research and development that is essential to our country's and our industry's global competitiveness. The "best and brightest" from around the world come here seeking an education in our colleges and universities; we should welcome them to be part of our nation when they graduate.

More fundamentally, however, the genius of America lies in the fact that we are a nation of immigrants bound together by national values of economic opportunity, rewarding hard work and providing access to education. Throughout our history, immigrants have come here and have created the American Dream. They have worked and invented, started new businesses and industries, and contributed to the strength of our society. This has allowed companies such as Verizon to innovate, grow, and improve our customers' communities. While much hard work remains, we encourage our policymakers to continue to work in a bipartisan fashion towards a comprehensive solution.

Levell Welldon

Cc:

Sen. Michael Bennet

Sen. Richard Durbin

Sen. Jeff Flake

Sen. Lindsey Graham

Sen. John McCain

Sen. Robert Menendez

Sen. Marco Rubio