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## AMERICAN HINDU COALITION RELEASES A GRASSROOTS IMMIGRATION REFORM PROPOSAL



**Ashburn Virginia, March 19, 2018** - Today, the American Hindu Coalition (AHC) released a grassroots immigration reform proposal to its membership nationwide. This proposal has been conveyed in a letter to **Senator Orrin Hatch** (R-UT), Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and a Senior Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. In addition, this proposal has been presented to the White House during a private meeting with Dr.

**Paul Teller**, Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs. The AHC leadership reiterated **support for the principles and policies outlined by President Trump** in his letter to the US Congress dated October 8, 2017. Specifically, AHC believes that the President's proposal to Congress is intended to expedite H1B Visas and Green Card applications for law abiding, English-speaking, high skilled immigrants who are the catalyst for innovation and economic growth and America's workforce competitiveness.

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AHC PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A FUTURE LEGISLATION REFORMING THE LEGAL IMMIGRATION PROCESS:

- ❖ Exempt American companies of fewer than 250 employees, who are recognized by the Small Business Association (SBA), from the costly regulatory compliance as “H1B dependent” employers. Exempt SBA qualified employers from H1B visa application amendments for transfers outside the MSA (metropolitan statics area), if Petitioner files new LCA and complies with the prevailing wage and notice of postings requirements. In determining the number of employees who are H–1B non-immigrants, an "intending immigrant" employee shall be excluded from the head-count.
- ❖ Increase the emphasis of legal immigration in the STEM fields for purposes of H1B Visa and Green Card applications. In addition, expedite the transition from H1B Visa to a Green Card for legal immigrants in the STEM fields.
- ❖ For H1B Visa holders who have earned advanced degrees from U.S. institutions, exclude their H1B Visa renewal application from the annual H1B Visa Caps and streamline the Green Card application process.
- ❖ Specialty occupations under the H1B Visa shall include professions where in more than 50% of the employees possess a Bachelor’s degree or higher pursuant to the data under the FLC data center. A Specialty occupation shall require a specific degree, a similar degree or any bachelor’s degree as long as the course work completed is reasonably connected to the duties of the position.
- ❖ Eliminate country caps in the Green Card application process.

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