

Press Release

CIVIL: Immigration for the 21st Century

Top Priority: High-Value Tech and Life Science Entrepreneurs

(7/10/2020, Scottsdale, AZ.) At the beginning of the 19th century immigration was free and open. America had a vast landmass to fill and “farmer” was the number one job description. America’s doors were wide open for anyone with a strong back and a will to own their own land. As the number of people required for farming dropped dramatically in the 20th century, new workers were required for low-skill industrial jobs and our immigration system still focused on the need for strong backs. After World War II, changed dramatically. Immigration of extremely high value talent from around the world rose dramatically because the United States was the best game in town. Left unravaged by the war and with the largest, freest economy in the world, we were a magnet for the best of the best.

In the twenty-first century, our requirements have changed again. Automation and robotics will reduce the need for low- or no-skills jobs. Unlike the twentieth century, when industry automated and reduce labor needs, new industries rose. Farming jobs, once ninety percent of our economy, fell to a few percent while industrial and manufacturing jobs skyrocketed. When automation arrived in these industries, the information technology industry flourished, as did the need for highly skilled workers. This trend will continue this century. Retail jobs have diminished while online shopping has skyrocketed. The needs of the economy are also changing more rapidly. The typical Fortune 500 company from the early twentieth century lasted 100 years. Today’s expected longevity is only 19 years. The trend for new jobs is an ever-increasing need for highly-skilled workers. Even shop floor workers in a factory need to be familiar with how to work with the automation that runs all the machinery.

Encouraging low or no skills immigration only assures that these immigrants will, over the next few decades, be competing with intelligent robots for jobs. This would be both mean to the immigrants and ineffective with respect to economic growth. The competition for the highly educated and for high-tech entrepreneurs is vastly greater today than last century.

Our highest economic priorities this century center on ideas, inventions, and innovation. These are the economic currency of success this century. They translate into two key immigration priorities: 1) entrepreneurs, especially those in life sciences and technology, among others, and 2) highly educated immigrants in the hard sciences like physics, chemistry,

engineering, genomic engineering, and the like. Though America has always done well in these areas, we need to step up our efforts to compete with China's 30-year plan to kick America and western civilization to the curb. Our competitive advantage to get these high value immigrants after World War II was that there really wasn't anywhere else to immigrate. America was not only the land of opportunity, because the devastating effects of the war didn't reach our shores, there simply wasn't a better place to renew one's life. International workers have numerous alternatives. We need a better immigration strategy.

This century is vastly more economically competitive. Dozens of industrialized nations have a great foundation to launch a new business. Sound economies with high economic freedom indexes have made them more competitive in attracting entrepreneurial immigrants. Staying in one's home country, especially when their economic freedom index is high, means it may be just as easy to launch an international business without moving. Additionally, vast swaths of private capital that have shifted to China are capturing new entrepreneurs. Our economy needs faster growth than the 2.5% average over the last 20 years if America is to keep China's economic growth and girth at bay.

During the twentieth century, America's political and economic freedoms were a magnet for immigrant entrepreneurs. In 2019, Newsweek touted that 45% of the Fortune 500 were founded by immigrants or the children of immigrants. As private capital flows to other nations like China and other emerging economies, the challenge for attracting entrepreneurs will be much more competitive. To accelerate economic growth, the top priorities are entrepreneurs and the highly educated, especially those who are seeking to patent discoveries or carry out research into technologies, especially AI and Machine Learning, and life sciences. Quotas for these immigrants are not needed.

One crucial step is required before any new immigration policy is possible. Every elected official in the United States, from dog catcher to president, needs to retake their oath of office to enforce the laws of the nation, from local to federal. Although the current immigration laws may leave much to be desired, their enforcement is essential. If our local, state, and federal leaders opt out of enforcing our laws, the rule of law falters and dies, and so too does the voters trust in government. Once we all agree to enforce laws, creating a new structure is possible. Without this step in the process, all political negotiations are just partisan gaming and designed to raise money, not raise the stakes on our economic and social ventures.

Proposed Immigration Structure

- Persons who will invest or have investment above \$200,000 in a job-creating enterprise that employs at least 1 full time U.S. worker, or persons that have a business idea, research proposal or pending patent. Unlimited access until annual new business formation exceeds \$750,000 annually (adjusted up annually as percentage increase in population.) Top priorities: technology and life sciences. Country by country limits are recommended to assure effects of talent drain of immigrating nations is minimized.
- Persons of extraordinary ability in the arts, sciences, education, business, or athletics; outstanding professors and researchers, multinational executives, and managers. Quota: 80,000
- Special Needs for Skilled Occupations:-Members of the professions holding advanced degrees, or persons of exceptional abilities in the arts, science, engineering, or business. Quota: 80,000
- Certain “special immigrants” including religious workers, employees of U.S. foreign service posts, former U.S. government employees, and other classes of aliens. Quota: 10,000
 - Immediate relatives of US Citizens, wives/husbands, and children.
 - Temporary Worker Program: To be measured by annual need by industries affected. Industries such as hospitality and farm workers should be accommodated by our immigration policy.
 - Refugees: Maintain current status.
 - End Chain Migration/Family Unification except for Immediate family (spouse and children)

Regarding the technology industry and H1-B visas, America needs to take great care to assure that these visas are not at the expense of American jobs. A few years ago, Disney acquired visas for Information Technology workers, which would be just fine, except for the fact the new hires were replacing the entire IT staff, all U.S. citizens. More humiliating, the IT staff had to train the new H1-B new hires. This conduct is unacceptable and cannot be part of any visa process. Period.

The road to economic success in the 21st century is directly proportional to the generation of innovations, ideas, and inventions. When international entrepreneurs bring their ideas to the US to create businesses, they increase business formation and expand employment. When America focuses on high-value persons in research, science, engineering and more, this expands the talent pool required to support the growth of these news 21st century businesses

and complements the growth of businesses that already reside in the US. These two areas should be our highest priorities with our new immigration policy.

In 2016, China produced one million new patents and one million new businesses. Though reporting from China is seldom accurate, these numbers are double US numbers and we need to be conscious of the fact that these variables are central to economic growth in the 21st century.

Economist William Easterly noted that idea generation is proportional a nation's population. China has four times the capacity for idea generation because it has four times America's population. America needs to maximize its efforts for creating ideas then bolster those numbers increased economic freedom and private investment to assure the highest number of good ideas make it to market. This holistic growth can then be complimented by immigration focused on new businesses and new jobs.

Our current immigration system, even if merit requirements by the Trump administration are added, will not be able to overcome China's growth plan, the mission of which is designed to displace the US in the number one economy, and to use their new economic power to kick the US and Western approach to economic and political freedom to the curb.

A more focused immigration policy will help assure this doesn't happen.

CIVIL's 21st Century Plan for America

Coupled with CIVIL's 21st Century Plan for America immigration incrementally adds to the other CIVIL building blocks for economic success. Education Enterprise Zones will add a new cohort of business ideas from the 8,000,000 at risk students in failing schools. The Chief Simplicity Office will streamline economic regulations, increasing economic freedom and improving our ability to compete for international entrepreneurs. The CIVIL 501K will increase savings and private investment in America by one-half billion annually allowing easies access to capital for new business ideas. Perhaps, most important, new immigrant business will be able to provide Whole Health Life Policies at a fraction of the traditional costs of insurance, assuring more workers have access to healthcare for a reasonable price to the worker and the entrepreneur.