



## POSITION STATEMENT

### Statement on Immigration

The immigration issue is complex and the existing laws that govern it are woefully broken and in need of reform. The crisis is exploited within the political class and its biblical implications are not widely appreciated within the Church.

Our aim is to offer biblical perspective. This includes high regard for the rule of law. Yet, it also carries a mandate for the care of foreigners in our midst in ways that recognize that all are created in God's image and of inestimable value. It involves the protection of the family unit and its most vulnerable members, its children.

Therefore, we urge a cooperative approach in reforming immigration law, an approach that will:

1. Strive to keep families together as they comply with entrance requirements. Wait times for proper documentation ought to minimize separation of immediate family members. The delays now are unconscionable, and are a source of tremendous stress on families.
2. Be fair to taxpayers. Laws should be enforced against those who hire workers unlawfully in order to avoid responsibility to our tax system, workplace conditions, and proper worker compensation.
3. Appropriately match immigrant admittance with our nation's ability to absorb and respond to labor needs. We urge that visa processing be made to work so that workers who wait in line can do so in a line that actually moves, giving them incentive to abide by the law.
4. Commit to protect the border with resources, human and technological, that are adequate to the task. We recognize that points 1 through 4 comprise the best methods of protecting our borders, by reducing incentives for illegal crossings.
5. Create a path to legal status for those who are here without proper documentation and who are willing to come forth, identify themselves, and pay appropriate fines for having transgressed our laws.

Adopted June 7, 2012  
Focus on the Family  
Board of Directors