



Immigration Reform, Getting it Right

An Agenda for Shared Prosperity Forum
1333 H Street, NW; East Tower, Suite 300
Wednesday, March 28, 9:30 am-12:00 noon

Registration & light breakfast
9:30-10:00 am

Presentations & Discussion:

I. Ray Marshall

Former U.S. Secretary of Labor
Professor Emeritus, LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas

[Getting Immigration Reform Right](#)

A new report published by EPI

Current federal immigration law is a failure fueled by misguided policies and public attitudes born out of common myths and inaccurate research about undocumented workers and their impact. As President Bush pushes new immigration legislation following his Latin American tour, the time is ripe for solutions that make laws more effective and improve working conditions for native and migrant workers.

II. Ron Hira

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Rochester Institute of Technology

[Outsourcing America's technology and knowledge jobs: High-skill guest worker visas are currently hurting rather than helping keep jobs at home](#)

The H-1B guestworker program doesn't simply fall short of its goals, it actually works counter to them. If the H-1B expansion passed last year by the Senate were to become law, it would increase off-shored jobs, displace more American technology workers, decrease wages and job opportunities in technology, and discourage young people from entering science and engineering fields.

III. Mary Bauer

Director, Immigrant Justice Project, Southern Poverty Law Center

[Close to Slavery: Guestworker Programs in the United States](#)

A new report published by the Southern Poverty Law Center

New findings published by the Southern Poverty Law Center on the realities of current guestworker programs in the United States, with a focus on the H-2 programs. SPLC's report exposes the abuses guestworkers systematically experience through their work in the U.S. Those abuses begin in their home country and continue through and beyond their employment in the United States.