

## Position Statement: Immigration

The Georgia Restaurant Association has established the following position statement on Immigration Reform. The GRA supports comprehensive immigration reform, but only at the federal level, including increased border security, a workable employment verification system, a worker program and an earned path to permanent residence for certain undocumented immigrants.

Our immigration system is broken. It undermines the security of the United States and erodes the integrity of our laws. Increased enforcement alone will not solve the problem. We need to do more than simply crack down on illegal immigration. Bills that are created to require local law enforcement to take on immigration responsibilities will create unfunded mandates and waste resources. We need to do more than simply crack down on illegal immigration.

Realistic reform is needed to fix the system. To create legal channels for workers who come to this country to fill the jobs necessary to keep our economy growing. We need to find a solution for the estimated 11 million unauthorized workers who live in the United States. Deportation is unrealistic, but we should not create a permanent caste of second-class workers, legal or illegal.

Our Georgia Legislature should be focused on passing legislation that will boost our economy, keep taxes low and balance our budget.