**Why Labor for Our Revolution Supports the Rights of Immigrants**

Thank you for responding to the call to support actions on May 1.

We respect your views on this volatile and difficult issue. Labor for Our Revolution **(**and the four national union leaders who signed the call), took a stand in solidarity with immigrant workers because we believe that the same greedy corporations that drive desperately poor immigrants to risk everything to travel to our country to seek work are the ones who are offshoring and outsourcing our jobs and busting our unions.

History has shown that the greatest advances for working class Americans have come when we have found ways to overcome are differences and unite around a common program for justice for all.

Despite our disagreement on this issue, we hope that you will continue to support Labor for Our Revolution's goal to fix a rigged economy and our broken political system.

In Solidarity,

Rand Wilson for Labor for Our Revolution

Our country's laws and the actions of our elected officials should protect peoples' rights, not undermine them. And we should support laws that bring working people together in a joint effort to win justice and better living standards, not drive them apart.

Anyone active in a campaign at work to organize a union knows that if the employer starts firing people, no one is safe. If we don't protect one another's rights, we will all lose them. The principle of an injury to one is an injury to all is more important today than ever. That's what our unions were built on.

There is a long history of employers and our government denying people's rights. At one time it was legal to discriminate against Black workers, and women workers. A strong civil rights and women's movement fought to put laws on the books to stop that. And we know it's still a struggle to get those laws enforced. Discriminating against people because they come from somewhere else is one more denial of rights that we have to stop.

When the government says that some people have the right to a job, but other people don't, does that create jobs for anyone? Of course it doesn't. We just start fighting over jobs, feeling less and less secure, while the people without rights become more and more vulnerable to abuse.

Our answer is to fight for jobs for everyone, so we can all support our families, and for a decent wage and a union. We know that if we put Bernie's ideas to work about rebuilding our country - our schools, housing, transit systems and clean energy producers - there would be more than enough work for all of us.

Immigrant workers are not a threat to the jobs of other workers. Big corporations are.

If we unite together we can change this. Immigrant workers in the fields, cleaning office buildings and hotel rooms, working on the meatpacking lines, and laboring in construction have all fought hard for better wages and for unions. In many areas where unions are rebuilding, immigrant workers are a big part of it. It's not new. That kind of unity is what built our unions before.

Immigrants are no more victims than anyone else. But we do need to understand that people come here mostly because they have no choice. Trade agreements like NAFTA, which had such a destructive impact on jobs in the U.S., had an even bigger one in Mexico. Corn farmers were driven off their land. Auto parts workers saw their factories close and move as well. And NAFTA was just one of the many corporate agreements that did the same to workers in other countries too.

Bernie called for renegotiating NAFTA way before Trump, and he has the welfare of workers in mind when he does it, not boosting the profits of big U.S. companies. Renegotiating NAFTA and other agreements can help bring us together. As we fight for our jobs and living standards in the U.S., Mexican unions and workers are saying the same things we are.

When workers are faced with the survival of their families, they will do whatever it takes to make sure they can eat and have a roof over their heads. No one wants to leave home. No one wants to cross a desert or a river or an ocean for a very uncertain future. No one wants to cross a border without a visa if there is another way. So we need to change our laws to make sure that migration is a choice, not something people are forced to do to survive. And when people have to leave home, as working people we need to reach out and welcome them into our midst, and ensure they have rights and progress along with everyone else.