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Texas Business Leadership Council Responds to President Biden's Day One Actions on Immigration

TBLC President Justin Yancy: "Executive orders are a positive first step; Congress must take up immigration reform to get economy back on track"

AUSTIN, TX -- President Joe Biden's early signals that his administration will prioritize immigration reform were welcomed by the Texas Business Leadership Council, a statewide network of senior business executives. Justin Yancy, President of TBLC, issued the following statement in response to President Biden's executive actions on immigration:

"Every day, immigrants make critical contributions to Texas communities and to Texas' economy, both as employees and, in the case of more than 400,000 individuals, as business owners. During this pandemic, millions of immigrants have put their lives on the line as front-line workers in our schools, our grocery stores and our hospitals. It is in the best interest of the United States to provide a clear legal path for immigrants to remain in our country and continue working and contributing to our economy. Their employers deserve an immigration system that recognizes the role immigrants play in maintaining and growing our economy."

"We applaud President Biden's decision to enact executive actions to rescind the counterproductive policies that led to challenges along our southern border. Further, these actions will provide some peace of mind to the hundreds of thousands of Dreamers who have grown up as Americans, including 213,000 in Texas."

"We recognize that these actions alone cannot fix America's broken immigration system, this will take legislation. We urge President Biden and congressional leaders to work together to craft sensible, bipartisan solutions that can create an immigration system that recognizes the role immigrants play and will continue to play in our post-COVID economy. Facts, not rhetoric, should be the cornerstone of immigration reform."

Texas is home to 4.9 million immigrants, who make up more than a fifth of the state's workforce. In 2017, Texas immigrants paid \$35 billion in federal, state, and local taxes, including \$1.35 billion paid by undocumented immigrants. Texas immigrants represent more than 70 percent of the state's construction workforce and 24 percent of the state's essential COVID-19 workforce.

To schedule an interview with Mr. Yancy you can contact Mike Joyce at mjoyce@txblc.org or by calling 804-536-667.

The Texas Business Leadership Council is a network of Texas based CEOs and senior business executives who advance a long-term vision of a prosperous Texas in a globally competitive business environment. [Justin Yancy](#) is the President of the Texas Business Leadership Council.

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