



March 14, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear President Obama, Speaker Boehner, Senator Reid, Senator McConnell, and Representative Pelosi:

One of the biggest economic challenges facing our nation is the need for more qualified, highly-skilled professionals, domestic and foreign, who can create jobs and immediately contribute to and improve our economy. As leaders of technology companies from around the country, we want to thank you for your sincere efforts in addressing high skilled immigration and we urge that you and your colleagues enact reform legislation this year.

As you know, the United States has a long history of welcoming talented, hard-working people to our shores. Immigrant entrepreneurs have gone on to found thousands of companies with household names like eBay, Google, PayPal and Yahoo! to name just a few. These companies provide jobs, drive economic growth and generate tax revenue at all levels of government.

Yet because our current immigration system is outdated and inefficient, many high-skilled immigrants who want to stay in America are forced to leave because they are unable to obtain permanent visas. Some do not bother to come in the first place. This is often due to visa shortages, long waits for green cards, and lack of mobility. We believe that numerical levels and categories for high-skilled nonimmigrant and immigrant visas should be responsive to market needs and, where appropriate, include mechanisms to fluctuate based on objective standards. In addition, spouses and children should not be counted against the cap of high-skilled immigrant visas. There should not be a marriage or family penalty.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are tens of thousands of unfilled jobs requiring highly skilled individuals. Five high-tech companies alone – IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Oracle and

Qualcomm – have combined 10,000 openings in the United States. Each one of these jobs has the potential to create many others, directly and indirectly. Bipartisan legislation currently introduced in the Senate, such as The Immigration Innovation Act of 2013, and bi-partisan legislation focused on addressing the needs of entrepreneurs and start ups such as the Startup Visa Act and Startup Act 3.0, will encourage innovation here in the U.S. by allowing American companies and entrepreneurs to have access to the talented workers they need while simultaneously investing in STEM education here in the U.S. We know what it will take to keep America in a position of global leadership. We know that when America is leading, our economic growth follows to the benefit of our nation’s workforce.

We call on you to address the need for more qualified, highly-skilled professionals, domestic and foreign, and to enact immigration reform this year. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in a bipartisan way as we move forward in our common interest.

Sincerely,

Jim Breyer
Partner
Accel Partners

KR Sridhar
Chief Executive Officer
Bloom Energy

Khaled Naim
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer
Addy Inc.

Ralph Dangelmaier
President & Chief Executive Officer
BlueSnap

Eric Davidson
President
American Automation & Communications, Inc.

David Hagan
President & Chief Executive Officer
Boingo Wireless

Bob Abernethy
President
American Standard Development Company

Bernard Yoo
Co-Founder
Bombfell, Inc.

Pablo Diaz-Gutierrez
Chief Technology Officer
Appfluence LLC

John Chambers
Chief Executive Officer
Cisco

Mike Splinter
Chief Executive Officer
Applied Materials

Edward Aten
Founder & Chief Executive Officer
CopThis, Inc

Robert Nelsen
Co-Founder & Managing Partner
ARCH Venture Partners

Cherian Thomas
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer
Cucumbertown

Randall Stephenson
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
AT&T

Michael Baker
Chief Executive Officer
DataXu, Inc.

Michael Pope
President
Audio Video Interiors, Inc.

Don Means
Founder & Principal
Digital Village

John Donahoe
Chief Executive Officer
eBay, Inc.

Fabio Rosati
President & Chief Executive Officer
Elance, Inc.

Timothy Healy
Chief Executive Officer
EnerNOC, Inc.

Kevin Hartz
Chief Executive Officer
Eventbrite

John McAdam
President & Chief Executive Officer
F5 Networks Inc.

Mark Zuckerberg
Chief Executive Officer
Facebook

Randy Fry
President
Fry's Electronics, Inc.

Eric Schmidt
Executive Chairman
Google

David Inns
Chief Executive Officer
GreatCall Inc.

Gagan Biyani
Co-Founder
Growth Hackers Conference

Jindou Lww
Chief Executive Officer
Happy Inspector

Koichi Fujikawa
Co-Founder
Hapyrus Inc.

Meg Whitman
President & Chief Executive Officer
Hewlett-Packard Company

Robert Struble
President & Chief Executive Officer
iBiquity Digital Corporation

James Hamilton
Chief Executive Officer
Identity Ventures LLC

Paul Otellini
Chief Executive Officer
Intel

Adriane Brown
President & Chief Operating Officer
Intellectual Ventures

Peter Corbett
Chief Executive Officer
iStrategyLabs

Mitchell Gaynor
Executive Vice President, Secretary, & General
Counsel
Juniper Networks

Vitaly Golomb
Chief Executive Officer
Keen Systems

John Doerr
Partner
Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers

Shaun Cross
Chief Executive Officer
Lee and Hayes

Marty Beard
Chief Executive Officer
LiveOps, Inc

Jake Sigal
Chief Executive Officer
Livio

John Hering
Chief Executive Officer
Lookout, Inc.

Karl Sun
Chief Executive Officer
Lucid Software Inc.

Matt McIlwain
Managing Director
Madrona Venture Group

Tom Savage
Vice President, Global Legal Affairs &
Governmental Policy
Marvell Semiconductor, Inc.

Sagar Mehta
Chief Technology Officer
Meet Mikey

Bradford L. Smith
General Counsel & Executive Vice President,
Legal & Corporate Affairs
Microsoft Corporation

Ted Smith
Chief Executive Officer
MIND Research

Loyd Ivey
Chief Executive Officer
Mitek Electronics & Communications Group

Bob Greifeld
Chief Executive Officer
NASDAQ OMX

Safra Catz
President & Chief Financial Officer
Oracle

Joseph Taylor
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Panasonic Corporation of North America

Alan Wells
Chief Executive Officer
Pocket Labs, Inc

Paul Lambert
President
Point B Management Consulting

Joshua Marti
Chief Executive Officer
Point Inside Inc.

Maryse Thomas
Chief Executive Officer
Pokeware

Dr. Paul E. Jacobs
Chairman of the Board &
Chief Executive Officer
Qualcomm Incorporated

Timothy Lipton
Co-Founder/Chief Financial Officer
ReAllocate, Inc.

Kim Folsom
Chief Executive Officer
Reel Qualified, Inc.

Steve Case
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Revolution LLC

Jean-Sebastien Boulanger
Chief Technology Officer
Rewardli Inc.

Michael Pope
President
Safety Technologies, Inc.

Kate Mitchell
Partner
Scale Venture Partners

Greg Becker
President & Chief Executive Officer
Silicon Valley Bank

Benoit Passot
Chief Executive Officer
SimPolaris

Brent Frei
Chairman
Smartsheet

Jim Weldon
Chief Executive Officer
Solar Junction

Michael Mayernick
Co-Founder
Spinnakr

Daniel Pidgeon
Chairman
Starpower

Ron Conway
Partner
SV Angels

Aart de Geus
Chairman & Co-Chief Executive Officer
Synopsis, Inc.

Mary Hale
Chief Financial Officer
Taos Mountain, Inc.

Scott Allison
Chief Executive Officer
Teamly Inc

Doug Young
Chief Operating Officer
The ASCII Group

Jonathan Zuck
President
Association for Competitive Technology

Jim Wunderman
President & Chief Executive Officer
Bay Area Council

Robert Holleyman
President & Chief Executive Officer
BSA | The Software Alliance

Steven Tiffen
President & Chief Executive Officer
The Tiffen Company

Jonathan Swanson
Co-Founder & President
Thumbtack

Michael Green
Chief Executive Officer
TipTopMed

Ariel Camus
Chief Executive Officer
TouristEye

David Rusenko
Chief Executive Officer
Weebly

Anush Ramani
Chief Technology Officer
Xola Inc.

James Zimmerman
Chief Executive Officer
Xola.com, Stanford Medical Center

Marissa Mayer
Chief Executive Officer
Yahoo!

Mark Pincus
Chief Executive Officer
Zynga

Todd Thibodeaux
Chief Executive Officer
CompTIA

Paige Rasid
Chief Operating Officer
Connecticut Technology Council

Gary Shapiro
Chief Executive Officer & President
Consumer Electronics Association

Fred Hoch
Chief Executive Officer
Illinois Technology Association

Dean Garfield
President & Chief Executive Officer
Information Technology Industry Council

Tom Hopcroft
Chief Executive Officer
Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council

Mark Heesen
President
National Venture Capital Association

Fred Kocher
President
New Hampshire High Tech Council

Maxine Ballen
Chief Executive Officer
New Jersey Technology Association

Erik K. Grummelmann, Ph.D.
Executive Director
New York Technology Council

Brooks Raiford
Chief Executive Officer
North Carolina Technology Association

Peter Craig
Chairman
Orange County Technology Alliance

Kathie Shields
Executive Director
Rhode Island Tech Collective

Brian Toohey
Chief Executive Officer
Semiconductor Industry Association

Carl Guardino
President & Chief Executive Officer
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Heather Kenyon
Chief Executive Officer
Tampa Bay Technology Forum

Shawn Osborne
President & Chief Executive Officer
TechAmerica

Rey Ramsey
Chief Executive Officer
TechNet

Tino Mantella
President
Technology Association of Georgia

Skip Newberry
President
Technology Association of Oregon

Michael Beckerman
President & Chief Executive Officer
The Internet Association

Lew McMurrin
Vice President of Government &
External Affairs
Washington Technology Industry Association