**CUSTOMIZE LETTER**

Dear X,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am the owner of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ based in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. My business is a seasonal business meaning that I have a need for X number of seasonal employees during my peak season.

As I am sure you have heard from other constituents and have experienced in your everyday life, employers are struggling to find employees. And if employers offering full-time, year-round employment are having difficulty finding workers, imagine how difficult it must be for seasonal employers. I can tell you it is next to impossible! This is despite extensive recruitment efforts.

On January 4th, DOL announced that it had received requests for over 136,000 worker positions for the second half allotment of 33,000 H-2B visas. This is a 40% increase over last year, reflecting the crisis level labor shortage faced by seasonal employers. My company was assigned Group X, meaning in all likelihood, absent cap relief, I will not be receiving my workers. This is devastating news.

My company is currently making budgeting decisions for this upcoming season but given the reality that I will likely not be receiving my workers, we are having to plan accordingly. This means forgoing the hiring of additional full-time, year-round American workers, reducing equipment and supply purchases and cancelling contracts. We were planning on growing this year and now we will have to make severe cutbacks. This is the last thing our economy needs as we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic!

The situation is dire and we need the Senator’s support more than ever. Will Senator X commit to cosponsoring S. 2443? This bill would modernize the H-2A program to include seafood processors, equine workers and landscapers.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. I look forward to hearing back from you!