Dear X,

The WSJ reported on Friday that the Trump administration plans to extend the immigration ban to include suspension of H-2B visa issuances.   
  
It would be devastating to seasonal employers if the administration extends the immigration moratorium to H-2B visa issuances. Seasonal employers, like mine, are already faced with a labor shortage and this would further compound it.

Explain recruiting efforts. What platforms are you recruiting on? What is your advertised wage rate? How many have applied? How many have you hired? How many remain with your company?

The administration believes that a V-shaped recovery of the economy is highly likely and that a majority of the country will be open for business by Memorial Day. A recent Washington Post survey[[1]](#footnote-1) shows that 77% of currently furloughed or laid off workers expect to re-hired for their previous positions when the stay-at-home orders in their area are lifted. These workers are therefore extremely unlikely to take a seasonal, temporary position while they wait to return to their old job.

The generous unemployment insurance included in the CARES Act has created a disincentive for unemployed Americans to take the available seasonal jobs. Why would laid off/furloughed Americans take a $600-$700 a week seasonal job when he or she can make $900+ on unemployment? This is why thousands of seasonal employers are still having difficulty filling their open positions despite the high unemployment. The Seasonal Employment Alliance created an [online jobs bank](http://sealabor.com/jobs-bank/) to increase awareness of these positions to American workers but it has yielded few inquiries.   
  
In the week that their advertising campaign has been active, the advertisements have resulted in:[[2]](#footnote-2):

* 339,000 impressions
* 23 click throughs
* 0 U.S. applicants

The surge in unemployment is not leading to more American workers applying for temporary, seasonal jobs.   
  
We cannot allow the administration to ban H-2B visa issuances, even for sixty days. It would be easy for them to then extend the ban.

Will Representative X please reach out to the White House, to DHS and to DOL to ask that they exclude H-2B workers from the expanded immigration ban. The H-2B workers are essential to the American workers who depend on them for their permanent positions and are critical to what they administration says will be a V-shaped recovery.

Sincerely

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1. [Washington Post-Ipsos poll](https://www.adn.com/nation-world/2020/05/07/77-of-laid-off-workers-believe-they-will-return-to-their-old-job-poll-finds/) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [Seasonal Employment Alliance jobs bank ad results](https://sealabor.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/ad-resultts-5-6.png) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)