November 17, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National Restaurant Association and the nation's restaurant and foodservice industry, thank you for your remarks during your recent *60 Minutes* interview, which recognized the contributions of hardworking, long-serving immigrants, and expressed your openness to working with Congress to secure meaningful immigration reform. At a time when the issue of immigration has too often been defined by political division, your comments are a welcome signal for America's workers, employers, and the continued growth of our nation's economy.

America's restaurants are the heart of communities across the nation, creating jobs, anchoring local economies, and providing opportunities to pursue the American Dream. From family-owned establishments to iconic national brands, restaurants embody the entrepreneurial spirit that defines our nation.

As you know, the restaurant industry supports more than 15 million jobs and generates over $1.4 trillion in annual economic activity. Restaurants are the nation's leading first-job provider and are committed to developing their workforce. Foreign-born workers have long been integral to our industry, bringing experience and dedication that help restaurants serve their communities. Even as restaurants continue investing in recruiting, training, and workforce development, many operators continue to face persistent labor shortages. With an average of more than 750,000 restaurant job openings each month this year, these shortages limit growth, expansion, and service to their communities.

It has been forty years since our nation last enacted comprehensive immigration reform. Few leaders have entered this debate with both the credibility to enforce the law and the standing to build broad support for reform. With your Administration's commitment to border security, you are uniquely positioned to deliver what others could not: a durable solution that focuses enforcement on those who threaten public safety, provides certainty for long-serving, vetted workers who have already built their lives in America, and creates workable legal pathways for the workers our growing economy will need. Achieving meaningful reform would be a historic accomplishment for your Administration and a legacy that strengthens America's economic future.

We respectfully urge you to seize this opportunity. We also encourage your Administration to explore every available administrative authority to ensure that long-serving workers who pass

rigorous vetting standards can continue contributing to the American economy while a lasting legislative solution is pursued. The National Restaurant Association, our state partners, and restaurant operators in every community in the country are ready to work with your Administration to preserve the opportunities that support economic growth, strengthen border security, meet workforce needs, and make America exceptional.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully yours,



Michelle L. Korsmo
President & CEO