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## SENATE INTRODUCES COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM BILL

A bipartisan group of Senators known as the "Gang of Eight" introduced an immigration reform bill in the Senate today, on April 17, 2013. The 844-page bill, entitled the "[Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act](#)", contains provisions to secure the border, add more H-1B work visas with a recruitment requirement, add a new work visa category for lower skilled workers, reduce the permanent residence backlog, allow some individuals to be exempt from the numerical limits for permanent residence, make E-Verify mandatory, and reform the current legal immigration system. A [summary](#) of the proposed bill provides more information.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold [hearings](#) on the bill on Friday and Monday, April 19th and 22nd. The bill will be debated in the Senate before it is amended and finalized, and then sent to the House for review. According to some, the House is then [likely to draft their own version](#) of the reform bill. The President would then need to sign any proposed legislation, which may not be until July or August.

For more information on how your organization may be affected by the reform bill, please contact your FosterQuan Immigration Attorney.

FosterQuan will continue to monitor developments in connection with immigration reform, including proposed legislation that would increase the annual H-1B quota, affect employment-based permanent residence cases, and increase enforcement and compliance. Future updates will be made available in FosterQuan Immigration Updates® and on our firm's website at [www.fosterquan.com](http://www.fosterquan.com).