For Immediate Release:
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San Francisco Working Families Join Growing National Chorus for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

The San Francisco Labor Council Hosts a Forum to Discuss Comprehensive Immigration Reform and a Road Map to Citizenship for 11 Million Aspiring Americans

WHAT: Union Forum on Comprehensive Immigration Reform

WHEN: Monday, February 25, 2013 beginning at 6:15 PM

NOTE: Media Availability from 5:45 - 6 PM for interviews with UFCW President Joseph Hansen; Unite Here General VP for Immigration, Civil Rights & Diversity Tho Thi Do; and immigrant workers.

FULL AGENDA BELOW

WHERE: Plumbers’ Hall ~ 1621 Market Street, San Francisco

WHO: Joseph Hansen, UFCW International President; Tho Thi Do, Unite Here General VP for Immigration, Civil Rights & Diversity; Victor Sanchez, AFL-CIO; Immigrant Workers, Domestic Workers and Community Organization Leaders from Jobs with Justice, ACCE; Union Members

WHY: This month the San Francisco Labor Council passed a resolution acknowledging “more than 11 million immigrant aspiring citizens contribute to our communities” and asserting that our “democracy cannot function unless all men and women, regardless of their skin color or where they were born, can participate meaningfully in the political process with full rights and equal protections.”

That commitment to equality is why the 100,000 San Francisco working families the San Francisco Labor Council represents pledge to continue to work with community partners—including civil rights, human rights and immigrant rights organizations—to promote citizenship for 11 million immigrant aspiring citizens. That includes a campaign to communicate our position to California’s congressional delegation, part of a national campaign by America’s unions to support the aspiration of 11 million immigrants to become citizens. This forum will kick off the San Francisco Labor Council’s campaign for Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

“Working people are working people, regardless of the color of their skin or where they were born,” said San Francisco Labor Council’s Executive Director, Tim
Paulson. “In San Francisco, we recognize that working people are strongest when we work together and our movement is strongest when it welcomes all workers. On a regular basis, the more than 11 million immigrant aspiring citizens who contribute to our communities, country, and economy are denied a voice at work and other basic rights. The creation of a road map to citizenship would not only stop employers from continuing to take advantage of our failed immigration policies; it would improve wages and labor standards for all workers by giving immigrant workers a voice on the job.”

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Monday, February 25, 2013
6pm

Location:
Plumbers Hall Local 38
1621 Market Street
San Francisco, CA

Time:
6:00 – 8:00 pm

(60 minutes)

1. **Tho Thi Do**, UNITE HERE's General Vice President for Immigration, Civil Rights, and Diversity.
   - Gives introduction and context as to why event is being held—emphasis on the local implications acknowledging the national need (10 min)

2. **President Jay Hansen**, UFCW
   - Gives background on why immigration is an AFL-CIO priority
   - Speaks around the importance of Labor’s involvement on this issue in the national context; speaks to details of our national campaign (15 min)

3. **Immigrant Worker** speaks to the importance of the issue and about an existing organizing campaign/effort around immigrant workers taking place. (3-5 min)
   a) **Unite Here Local 2** (Ian)

4. **Immigrant Worker** speaks to the personal impact working on Immigration has—a testimonial—and the importance of having the support and strength of labor behind this push for reform. (3-5 min)
   b) **SEIU 87** (Olga)

5. **Community Leaders** speak to the importance of Labor’s role with respect to future collaboration on this campaign. (3 mins each)
   c) **ACCE**
   d) **Jobs with Justice (AB)**
   e) **Domestic Workers**

6. **College student**
   a) Is a citizen, mother is in Local 87 and father in 261 (he was deported) now back and fighting the deportation. She would speak to Family reunification and the impact etc. (3-5 min)

7. **DREAMer** shares his/her story (AB) (3-5 min)

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**Day of Event Contacts:**

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(45 minutes)

a) **Victor Sanchez, AFL-CIO**
   a) Overview of the current State-of-Play in DC (5 min)
   b) Discussion of basic principles of AFL-CIO plan (5 min)

b) **Olga Miranda, SEIU 87** (30 min)
   a) What can Labor do locally?
   b) Have commitments from labor/community/elected officials in crowd
   c) Sample Immigration “YES” Pledge Card
   d) Discuss April 10th and May 1st action
   e) Creative Ideas for action – what else?
   f) Community Labor Meeting March 6th