

December 19, 2007

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It's About Innovation

Fact of the Week

**Democratic and Republican Presidential Candidates Agree:
Highly Educated Professionals Contribute to America**

Did you know ...

- "... [O]ne of our greatest sources of talent and brains in this nation came from people from all over the world, who studied here, and decided that they wanted to stay and work here. ... [W]e ... have to fix this H-1B problem, and we have to make it a lot easier for students from all over the world to come and study at the finest institutions in the world." – **Senator John McCain (R-AZ), August 30, 2007**
- "I think it is important for us to have available ... the talent and the mental capacity we need. So the H-1B visa program is important; it should be expanded, based on the needs that exist." – **Senator John Edwards, September 3, 2007**
- "H-1B visas are a great source of a brain magnet, ... bringing people into this country who have skill and experience from other countries. I'd rather staple a green card to your diploma and say that if you can get a Ph.D. from one of our great institutions, we'd love you to stay here." – **Governor Mitt Romney, September 25, 2007**
- "... [W]e need to get the best minds from the world once again coming to America." – **Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY), October 4, 2007**
- "I support comprehensive immigration reform that includes improvement in our visa programs, including our legal permanent resident visa programs and temporary programs including the H-1B program, to attract some of the world's most talented people to America." – **Senator Barack Obama (D-IL), November 26, 2007**

Support for H-1B visa and EB green card reform is bipartisan. Congress must act now to modernize these systems to meet our nation's workforce demands in the 21st century.

To learn more about highly educated immigration, visit www.competeamerica.org.

Compete America (www.competeamerica.org) is a coalition of corporations, educators, research institutions and trade associations concerned about legal, employment-based immigration and committed to ensuring that the United States has the highly educated workforce necessary to ensure continued innovation, job creation and leadership in a worldwide economy.