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November 30, 2010

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I have been contacted by constituents regarding questions about enforcement policies of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Until Congress passes fair and humane comprehensive immigration reform, the recently stated ICE enforcement strategy focusing on dangerous criminal aliens and employers who knowingly cultivate illegal workplaces and exploit illegal workers is a positive step. However, the success of these efforts depends on uniform enforcement of current immigration laws.

Recent inquiries to my office reflect a concern that certain employers are being targeted for I-9 audits over others. To obtain a better understanding of the ICE I-9 audit process, I respectfully request the following information:

- The companies and locations where I-9 audits have been initiated during the past five years in the U.S.,
- The criteria and process for commencing an I-9 audit, and
- The origin of information that lead to the initiation of audits in Minnesota during the past five years.

As a Member of Congress, I stand with the Obama Administration in strongly supporting reform of our country's immigration system with a common sense, comprehensive solution that secures our borders, protects the rights of all workers and modernizes our legal immigration programs. Our nation has an outdated immigration system that has divided families and communities will ineffective enforcement strategies. We need a practical solution that will strengthen the economy and move this country forward. We must reaffirm America's tradition as both a nation of laws and a nation built on the strength of immigrants.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress