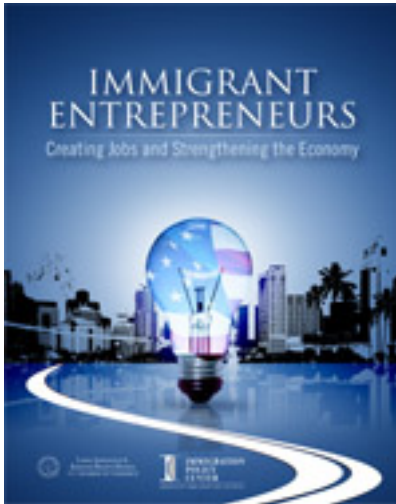


Immigrant Entrepreneurs: Creating Jobs and Strengthening the Economy



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There is widespread agreement across a number of key economic planning groups that immigrant entrepreneurs create jobs and strengthen the economy. Yet, the U.S. immigration system often forces out immigrant entrepreneurs, driving them to other countries that are competing for international talent. Although many people recognize the giants of immigrant entrepreneurship, such as Sergey Brin of Google and Pierre Omidyar of eBay, thousands of other science and technology businesses are quietly making a difference by creating almost half a million jobs for Americans and generating revenue of more than \$50 billion. The depth and breadth of immigrant entrepreneurs extend across the spectrum of enterprises, including neighborhood, growth, and transnational businesses. Expansion of employment-based visas would allow companies' access to high-potential foreign individuals who are graduates of U.S. universities. Businesses, cities, and states across the country should support changes in visa policy and work to develop partnerships with immigrant entrepreneurs to create jobs and strengthen the economy.

The report features profiles of immigrant entrepreneurs and shines a light on some of the difficulties they face. Current immigration laws make it difficult for many immigrant entrepreneurs to contribute to the nation's growth. The report contains administrative and legislative proposals that taken together could create an atmosphere that fosters growth.

- Listen to the **telebriefing**, featuring **Benjamin Johnson**, Executive Director of the American Immigration Council, **Marcia Hohn**, director of the Public Education Institute at The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc., **Randy Johnson**, senior vice president of Labor, Immigration, and Employee Benefits at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce:

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