

THE CHANCES FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM



by

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What are the chances of comprehensive immigration reform being passed? Nobody can say for sure, except that it is a topic that continues to be discussed in Washington, D.C.

At the beginning of his term, President Obama indicated that he wanted to have comprehensive immigration reform done this year. In recent months, he has continued to express his support for comprehensive immigration reform, but has backed off announcing a particular timeframe for it.

Various members of Congress, however, have continued to indicate that they will introduce various proposals for comprehensive immigration reform. Most notably, Senator Chuck Schumer (D-New York) previously indicated that he would draft a comprehensive immigration reform proposal by Labor Day, which has since passed. The rumor is that Senator Schumer still plans on drafting a proposal which will hopefully be introduced in Congress later this year or early next year.

More recently, Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Illinois) indicated in mid-September that he would introduce his own immigration reform proposal by mid-October. Rep. Gutierrez has been a long proponent of compassionate immigration reform and an advocate for immigrants.

It remains to be seen if any plan introduced in Congress by either Senator Schumer or Rep. Gutierrez will be voted on in year's Congress or if it will have to wait until next year. With the health care debate still being debated in Congress, it is looking more likely that any reform plan will have to wait until next year. We, at Long, Chang & Associates, L.L.P., will continue to monitor the situation.

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