



## Ohio's Labor & Immigration

**Ohio needs to dramatically boost its skilled labor force if it's going to develop and replenish the manpower resources necessary for transitioning to a new economy encompassing so many projects.**

State government, commercial interests and labor also need to cooperate fully in developing mutually beneficial goals and plans. As industries change, critical junctures in the workforce have to be monitored and avoided, if addressed. For example, there are going to be larger and larger reductions in the labor force as more robots come on line for a variety of purposes. Therefore, it may be in the interests of state leaders to begin seeking other avenues where we can still keep human hands from becoming idle and so help the state from incurring higher social services costs.

Legislative bills emphasizing the right-to-work principles that inject fear in the workplace because an employee can get fired for any reason need to be defeated. Union shops should be encouraged and

careful reforms put in place that still give workers protection in choosing whether or not to join. An increase in apprenticeship programs need to be applied across the trades.

Ohio could create its own robust state-directed residency program for current illegal aliens residing in Ohio aimed at expediting the registration of all illegal aliens, establishing legal residency in Ohio, and integrating them into the federal, state and local tax tables in a timely manner. Requirements could be made for proof of auto insurance and a valid Ohio's Driver license. Creating opportunities for industries and businesses to benefit from a large labor pool would greatly assist in boosting Ohio's productivity across the board. A side benefit is it makes Ohio a stronger, more viable platform for its guest workers to remit substantial funds back to their home countries.

The Ohio Democratic Party will lead with new approaches and ideas that recognize that in order for Ohio to maintain, replenish and transform its agricultural, commercial and industrial labor ranks, it must derive them from a variety of sources.