



**Susan Gouveia**

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**From:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 19, 2013 12:40 PM  
**To:** Canning, Sean; Susan Gouveia  
**Subject:** FW: NLC President Calls on City Leaders to Take Action

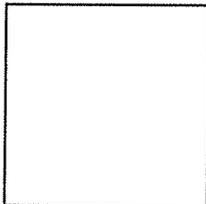
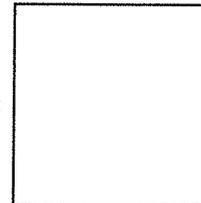
Lisa Lashway  
Mt. Olive Twp. Clerk  
973-691-0900 Ext. 7291  
FAX 973-691-2080  
PO Box 450  
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

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**From:** National League of Cities [mailto:nlcmail@nlc.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 19, 2013 11:39 AM  
**To:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** NLC President Calls on City Leaders to Take Action

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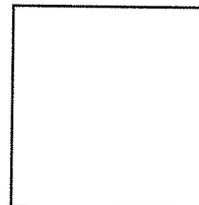
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Dear Community Leaders,

While summer just started, the temperature is rising on our key legislative priorities. Now more than ever, we need your help to accomplish our legislative goals. We need to enact the Marketplace Fairness Act and common sense immigration reform before November when we meet in Seattle at NLC's Congress of Cities.

In the last few weeks we have seen positive movement in Congress on these two priorities, and your hard work made it happen. Despite the gridlock in Washington, despite the undermining partisanship, despite the fiscal challenges that many of us still face within our cities and towns, I remain convinced the work we are doing together as NLC is making a difference.



As you know, the *Marketplace Fairness Act* will allow our hometowns to collect the same taxes on online purchases that have to be paid at our main street businesses. After passing the Senate with a bipartisan 69-27 vote and with President Obama saying he will sign the legislation into law, we now need a hearing in the House on its version of the bill, H.R. 684, introduced by Representative Steve Womack (R-AR). Ideally, the full House will vote to pass the bill before adjourning for summer recess. What I know for sure is that it's time for the House to act. I am calling on you to **please tell your Representatives to ask House Judiciary Chair Robert Goodlatte (R-VA) to hold a hearing on H.R. 684.**

The *Marketplace Fairness Act* allows local governments the ability to collect the taxes already owed on remote online purchases – already owed! It does not raise existing taxes or impose new ones – thereby placing brick and mortar corner stores on the same playing field with online retailers. Collecting the sales taxes that are owed also means more funding for basic services, such as roads and police officers, without increasing the overall federal deficit.

So, we need you to call your Representative today and tell them:

- The Marketplace Fairness Act deserves a hearing in the House.
- The bill will support local businesses by giving them an opportunity to compete on a level playing field with Internet retailers.

I'm also excited to report that the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 13-5 to report the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act (S. 744), which is now on the Senate floor for consideration. As a Mayor, I have witnessed how immigration touches the lives of our residents and communities. This bipartisan bill offers an answer to the negative impact our broken immigration system has had on our communities. It is essential because immigrants establish businesses, create jobs and contribute to the social and cultural fabric of our communities.

S. 744 takes a holistic approach to reform by eliminating illegal border entry, increasing enforcement of visa overstays and strengthening worksite enforcement capacity, and allowing undocumented immigrants currently living in the U.S. to earn legalized status. As debate on the bill moves to the Senate floor, we all need to be working with our members of Congress to make sure it includes technical and financial resources for cities and

towns to help alleviate the impact of new immigrants on local services, and ensure them that this bill ensures an earned path to citizenship.

Call your Senators today and tell them:

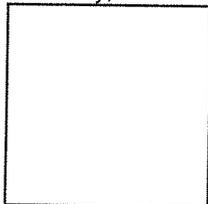
- To support comprehensive immigration reform because it is good economic policy, not only for local economies, but for the entire nation.
- To include resources for cities to assist in integrating new immigrants into our communities.

For updates on the floor debate, go to [www.nlc.org](http://www.nlc.org).

Please know that we are making progress on our NLC legislative priorities and it has been because of your input, passion, vision, and action. My recent engagements with NLC's Executive Office have made it clear to me that we are being heard, and we must collectively keep pushing on. Again, please reach out today to your Representative to ask for a hearing on Marketplace Fairness and to your Senators to support immigration reform. And please stand ready to help as these bills move forward. I'm looking forward to celebrating our success in Seattle.

Have a happy and healthy summer!

Sincerely,



Marie Lopez Rogers  
NLC President  
Mayor, Avondale, AZ

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National League of Cities

1301 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Suite 550  
Washington, DC 20004  
1-877-827-2385  
[memberservices@nlc.org](mailto:memberservices@nlc.org)[memberservices@nlc.org](http://memberservices@nlc.org)

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