



[www.tiaonline.org](http://www.tiaonline.org) | 10 G Street, NE, Suite 550  
Washington, DC 20002

Tel: +1.202.346.3240  
Fax: +1.202.346.3241

March 24, 2011

The Honorable Jeff Flake  
U.S. House of Representatives  
240 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Flake,

On behalf of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), I am writing to applaud your leadership in introducing H.R. 399 the "STAPLE Act" and to offer our endorsement of this legislation.

TIA is a leading trade association for the information and communications technology industry, with over 500 member companies that manufacture or supply the products and services used in global communications. Our member companies have long supported legislation to update our nation's system for awarding visas to foreign workers.

The United States has many of the best universities in the world – universities that attract the best and the brightest minds. Our policies should be updated to recognize that it is in our nation's long term interest to maintain those foreign students that wish to stay in the U.S. to work upon their graduation. We have heard too many stories from our companies about the hurdles they need to go through to try to win the visas necessary to keep these students upon their graduation. These hurdles not only cost time and resources but too often end in disappointment. Your legislation would eliminate these barriers and would go a long way towards ensuring our domestic industries have access to the best workforce in the world.

Again, on behalf of our companies, TIA appreciates your strong leadership on this legislation and we look forward to working with you to enact this legislation this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grant E. Seiffert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Grant Seiffert  
President