The Negative Effects of Cw-1 Cap CW-1 CAP

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The CNMI economy is currently experiencing growth, but that growth has been put at risk. The CNMI needs enough workforce to sustain its economy, this fact is rapidly apparent to many businesses that will struggle if the CW-1 workers leave. Now, if the problem isn’t sustained the economical lost that happened back in 2009 will happen again. Businesses will shut down and children will be apart with their families.

The trump administration set CW-1 cap at 4,999 for the coming year 2019, which would bring a very harmful impact to the economy and the people of the Marianas (Encinares, 2018). Just recently this year, the CW permits for fiscal year 2019, was selected using a lottery computer-generated random selection process, to petition that CW be selected for 2019 fiscal year. This process seems to be fair, but the number those not add up. The decrease of Cw-1 workers would cause a negatively imfact throughout the businesses in the CNMI.

The Hotel Association of Northern Marianas Islands chair Gloria Cavanagh called the news “disastrous” (Encinares, 2018, para. 6). Well she was right; the economy isn’t even a few years old and the economy is just starting to grow. Then the CNMI is facing another challenge that could affect the growth of our economy, because without the manpower we won’t be able to sustain and provide services to our tourists. Although, this problem was already been solve thanks to the (R-AK) S. 2325, the bill that extends the transitions period for the CNMI’s foreign worker program for 10 years (Press Release, 2018). That added 8,001 CW-1 permits to add it up to 13,000 CW-1 permits for 2019, by the following years they will minimize 500 workers a year up to 2023 until there will only be 11,000 workers left. Then the cap would then drop by 1,000 workers each year until the first quarter of fiscal year 2030, until there will be no CW-1 left.

As our nonresident workers are forced to leave the island by the following years, it will not only strain the growing economy of CNMI, it would also affect the families of thousands of CW-1 workers, most especially their US citizen child. As you can see, long-term CW-1 people have been here for many years have been an integral part of the fabric of our society and have made significant contributions to our community and the CNMI economy. Living in a third world country does not provide free medical care, food stamps, and other benefits that you would eventually find here in the CNMI. Some may have to leave behind their love ones, because they know, that there is a better future, for their child here in the CNMI. Won’t it be better if the long-term CW-1 would be given a chance to stay and work here in the CNMI?

Without, the CW-1 there will be an economic meltdown that would cripple the growing economy that we have today. Also, if ever the nonresident workers were sent home especially those that have US citizen children that relies on them, the young children would end up in a foster home, a stranger, or a friend’s home. Young adults would be forced to make a choice and stop studying and focus more on providing their family’s needs. These are some negative aspects that can happen if we let the CW-1 or the nonresident workers leave. We don’t want that, because we need these nonresident workers. The only solution is to give them the chance to stay here permanently, those long-term non-resident workers that call CNMI their home.

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