



Strong/Severe storms possible Friday

Storms are expected early Friday evening, bringing gusty winds, hail and frequent lightning. An isolated tornado can't be ruled out

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Nashville business leaders warn of deportation consequences

by Eric Alvarez | Tuesday, February 21st 2017



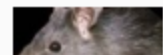
RALPH SCHULZ
NASHVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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TRENDING

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Nashville business leaders warn of deportation consequences

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mass deportations could cost jobs and tax dollars in the Volunteer State,

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The Nashville Chamber of Commerce joined the Tennessee Farm Bureau and local business leaders at to show lawmakers new data from [New American Economy](#), which said contrary to some claims, immigrants do pay taxes. It also said they don't steal jobs, they create them.

"The immigrant population is 10 percent more likely to be entrepreneurs than our native born citizens of this area," said Ralph Schulz, Nashville Chamber of Commerce president.

The data said Tennessee immigrants contributed \$5.9 billion in spending and paid \$2 billion in taxes in 2014.

The group plans to push for new laws that encourage immigration rather than restrict it.

On Tuesday, the Department of Homeland Security unveiled sweeping plans to deport undocumented immigrants. The Tennessee Farm Bureau says the deportations could make the cost of your food grow up.

2

4 DAYS AGO

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3

4 DAYS AGO

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3 DAYS AGO

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The number of U.S.-born farm workers dropped by 20 percent between 2002 and 2014 said Stefan Maupin, bureau policy director.

At the same time, Maupin said Tennessee is importing 80 percent more food from other countries, which is more expensive and could put smaller Tennessee farms out of business.

"Fewer and fewer Americans are filling farm jobs," Maupin said. "Immigrant workers can provide the temporary and seasonal workforce that farmers need to fill these open jobs and keep our farms producing here at home and not importing."

The bureau said it supports laws that make acquiring work visas easier, which would reduce the number of undocumented workers and keep farmers in business.


President Donald Trump said his immigration policies are aimed at immigrants who came to this country illegally, and have criminal histories. Opponents said mass deportations also take tax dollars out of Tennessee coffers and good people out of Tennessee neighborhoods.

"The majority of the people are good," said Dr. Ming Wang, a business owner who moved to the United States from China. "Let's tap on the positive energy of these folks and together make America great again."


You can read the full report below:

[New American Economy- Tennessee Report](#) by [wztv_fox17](#) on Scribd

REPORT AUGUST, 2016






The Contributions of New Americans in Tennessee



Scribd

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