

# CQ NEWSMAKER TRANSCRIPTS

*Congressional Events*

*April 12, 2010*

Senate Majority Whip Durbin and Rep. Van Hollen Participate in Americans United for Change News Teleconference on Unemployment Insurance Benefits

**QUESTION:** Senator Durbin, over the weekend, you and Senator Reid put the spotlight on the immigration bill. I'm wondering how that fits into the broader jobs message that you have. And what is your timeframe or strategy for moving that immigration bill?

**DURBIN:** Well, I can just tell you that I think we should call the immigration bill this year and during this session of the Senate. And I called for that on Saturday. Again, we need help from the other side of the aisle.

But my experience tells me that many times members won't commit unless they face an inevitable vote. And if they think this is coming, we might be able to win over some Republicans for it.

You know, it is in the best interests of American workers for us to have a workplace where people are identified, and where they don't have undocumented workers who are being exploited for below minimum wage compensation. Let's get these workplaces where we have good identification methods of workers. Let's make sure that we know who is working, what they're being paid. That's in the best interest of everybody working in this country.