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Voter article for January 5, 2024

From Immigration Interest Group

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### **The Cost of Inaction on Immigration Reform**

The Jeffco Immigration Interest group will meet Tuesday January 16 at 2:00 pm via Zoom. (See the link on the LWV Jeffco Event Calendar) Why do we think this is important?

A 10/08/23 NY Times editorial reported that more than a million people have entered the US through the southern border. Congress has failed to provide the resources to welcome those eligible for asylum and turn away those who are not. This has fueled anger against immigrants and stoked divisions.

The quotas for immigrants seeking legal employment visas and a chance to become permanent residents are too low, particularly for people who can fill the gaps of the more than 2 million open positions in construction, hospitality and retail.

The current crisis shows how hard it is to absorb waves of new people without adequate resources. Until Congress decides to take meaningful action, America will continue to pay a price.