

## **Abstract**

This bachelor thesis deals with the role of business lobbying in relation to the political arena of immigration reform in the United States during the second Bush administration era. It attempts to evaluate the impact of businesses on immigration policies through their lobbying activities. It analyzes expenditures on two separate bills that were introduced in Congress in the years 2006 and 2007. The thesis tries to answer the question whether American businesses enjoy an uneven impact on politics and is based on several premises. Businesses try to increase their profits via decreasing the wage level which is made possible by abundance of workers. They also try to prevent a situation in which there is a scarcity of workers. Businesses thus demand open liberal immigration policy and spend considerable resources to achieve this goal. Businesses have, according to some authors, a special position among other interest groups which enables them to effectively control political decisions. Given the fact that both bills I considered were liberal and heavily supported by the business lobby groups and still did not pass in the Congress I will claim that businesses are not as powerful as often expected.