

January 27, 2017

CRA Statement in Response to White House Executive Order: "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States"

As an organization representing the leading academic and industrial computing research institutions in the United States, the Computing Research Association expresses great concern over President Donald J. Trump's Executive Order imposing a 90-day suspension of visas to nationals of seven countries.

The United States has benefited greatly from the contributions to our field and to our nation of individuals from all nations, including those covered in today's order. This order creates uncertainty and potential hardship among current students and researchers already here making important contributions and endangers our leadership role in a key field. Today's order may also discourage foreign-born researchers from bringing their talents to the U.S. in the future, which would have significantly detrimental impacts on our national competitiveness.

The U.S. enjoys its leadership role in science and technology in part because the world's best and brightest bring their talents here to be a part of U.S. scholarship and innovation. In critical areas, protections are already in place to prevent the spread of sensitive technologies.

We urge the President to lift the visa suspension at or before the 90-day deadline and not curtail the studies or contributions of these students and researchers.