

SILICON VALLEY / SAN JOSE  
**BusinessJournal**

## Feinstein calls for increase in H1B visas

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BY [Timothy Roberts](#)

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, D-California, said on Monday that she supports an increase in H1B visas, a reduction of troops in Iraq and tighter controls on greenhouse gases emissions.

Speaking to the [Silicon Valley Leadership Group](#) in San Jose, Feinstein said she will support an increase in the H1B because "we have to ensure that we have the best and the brightest people here," she said.

A total of 65,000 are allowed the current fiscal year, which began in October. That number was filled by last August, and executives from technology and other companies have been calling for more.

But as visa numbers go up, the number of U.S. soldiers in Iraq should go down, she said.

"By the end of the year we should see a substantial reduction of U.S. forces in Iraq," she said.

The U.S. mission in Iraq should be to focused on logistics and the training of Iraqi soldiers, she said.

California's senior senator, who is running for re-election this year, also said she will introduce legislation aimed at reducing green house gases that cause global warming.

"The science is indisputable," Feinstein said. "Global warming is happening."

The potential harm includes the melting of the California snow cap that provides drinking water for 16 million people in southern California.

Her legislation, which is expected to be brought up April 4 in the Senate Energy Committee Climate conference, would set caps on businesses that emit greenhouse gases based on the current year and then gradually lower them through the yea 2020. The legislation would establish a trading system, allowing low emitters to sell credits to companies with greater emissions.

