

ACTION ITEMS

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Petition to President-elect Biden

GO TO THIS LINK TO SIGN:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19dwQddtxtnI_tlfHe7ftMaxgDb4VlDow7a01UtXw_a4/viewform?edit_requested=true

We the undersigned request that you and your administration make it a priority to revoke the policies and rules changes initiated by the previous administration that have made it almost impossible for people seeking asylum to receive protection and find safety. In particular, we note the following items, by no means an exhaustive list, as examples of what must be changed:

- 1) the mis-named Migrant Protection Protocols, which have forced 60,000 asylum seekers to remain in Mexico for the duration of their asylum process, fending for themselves on the streets or in makeshift shelters without running water or sanitary facilities;
- 2) the Asylum Cooperative Agreements with Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, allowing the U.S. to deport asylum seekers to these three countries to seek asylum there rather than here. These are precisely the countries from which people flee seeking asylum in the United States;
- 3) the CDC closure, under pressure from the previous administration, of the border to "non-essential travel" during the COVID-19 pandemic. Migrants of all types were put in the "non-essential travel" category, resulting in the expulsion of over 150,000 people, including children. Travel for U.S. citizens of almost any kind was put in the "essential" category. This is an anti-asylum policy masquerading as a public health measure;
- 4) exorbitant fee increases for filing asylum applications and work permits, putting it beyond the means of most asylum seekers;
- 5) requirement that asylum seekers wait one year after filing for asylum to put in an application for authorization to work;
- 6) restrictions in eligibility requirements for receiving asylum such that being threatened by gangs or domestic violence are not valid reasons for seeking asylum.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19dwQddtxtnI_tlfHe7ftMaxgDb4VlDow7a01UtXw_a4/edit

ASK YOUR SENATOR TO SUPPORT TPS LEGISLATION

What is TPS?

TPS is a life-saving immigration program that allows foreign nationals to remain in the U.S. if, while they were in the U.S., something catastrophic happened in their country of origin that prevented their safe return. Examples include war, famine, natural disaster, or epidemic. TPS protects people from deportation and allows them to work legally while they remain in the U.S. The program is a temporary, humanitarian form of relief that does not grant permanent residence in the United States.

It was created by a bipartisan act of Congress in 1990, allowing the Department of Homeland Security to grant the status when disasters strike.

Only legislation—not litigation—will provide a permanent solution to protect TPS holders, ensuring they can remain in the U.S. with their families and communities where they belong.

Litigation, while impactful, can only provide temporary relief for TPS holders, their families, and communities. Ultimately, only Congress can provide a permanent solution to protect TPS holders.

Without congressional action, the terminations of TPS will lead to devastating moral and economic consequences not just for TPS holders but for their families, communities, and for the entire country.”

Through organizing and advocacy, TPS recipients and their allies are counteracting the administration’s aggressive efforts to deport millions of people with deep roots in our communities.

Bills have been introduced in Congress that would protect TPS holders. The House has passed the Dream and Promise Act, which would offer a pathway to citizenship for people with TPS, Deferred Enforced Departure (DED), or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). It’s time for the Senate to follow suit.

Take action today: Tell your senators to provide permanent protection for TPS holders by creating a roadmap to citizenship for TPS holders and all immigrants! Find your senators here:

https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?OrderBy=state&Sort=ASC