

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2018

The Honorable John Carter  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Carter and Ranking Member Roybal-Allard:

As you begin consideration of the Fiscal Year 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you include report language to protect beneficiaries who are currently in possession of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and current Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) holders. Over the course of the past few months, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced decisions to terminate TPS for Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, and El Salvador. TPS, governed by statute, and DED, as a presidential directive privilege, have long been viewed as a practical and effective tool for American foreign policy by both Republicans and Democrats. TPS beneficiaries live and work legally in the United States and were given an opportunity to do so given extraordinary hardships in their respective countries of origin. Their immediate departure, in some cases after 20 years of legal presence, poses a hardship for our communities. It also poses a financial burden on taxpayers: the deportation of Salvadoran, Haitian and Honduran TPS holders would cost at least \$3.1 billion.<sup>1</sup> American firms could also see their retention costs increase, as the loss of this population would generate almost \$1 billion in turnover costs.<sup>2</sup>

**Congress currently has provided 4 TPS-specific legislative vehicles in the House, both Republican and Democratic, to provide protection from deportation, and to varying degrees, pathways to permanent residency.<sup>3</sup> Despite current efforts, the upcoming deadlines for Sudan (November 2, 2018), Nicaragua (January 5, 2019), Haiti (July 22, 2019) and El Salvador (September 9, 2019), would suggest that an immediate legislative fix is not possible for any TPS recipients facing deportation in the short-term future. Given these extraordinary circumstances, we respectfully request that the following language be inserted for the Fiscal Year 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations bill:**

*None of the funds appropriated by this Act or prior acts may be obligated or expended to apprehend, detain, or remove from the United States any alien who was granted Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or granted Deferred Enforced Departure provided by the Presidential Directive issued on September 28, 2016, or eligible for either status, on January 1, 2017, if the alien lost their temporary protected status, or deferred enforced departure, solely as a direct or indirect result of any action taken by the Secretary of Homeland Security, the President, or any other Federal official with respect to such program or presidential directive, and not for any other reason.*

<sup>1</sup> Baran, A., Magaña-Salgado, J., and Wong, T. Economic contributions by Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian TPS holders. The cost to taxpayers, GDP, and businesses of ending TPS. Immigrant Legal Resource Center. Policy Report. April 2017.

[https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-](https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-18_economic_contributions_by_salvadoran_honduran_and_haitian_tps_holders.pdf)

[18\\_economic\\_contributions\\_by\\_salvadoran\\_honduran\\_and\\_haitian\\_tps\\_holders.pdf](https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-18_economic_contributions_by_salvadoran_honduran_and_haitian_tps_holders.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> See: H.R. 4184, H.R. 4253, H.R. 4384 and H.R. 4750

Providing this critical language will help establish a sense of Congress' ability to address this issue and provide the necessary time for the legislative process to provide the appropriate protections needed for TPS and DED holders.

Sincerely,



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



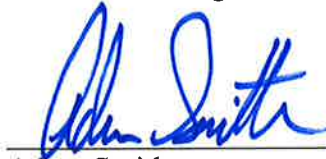
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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



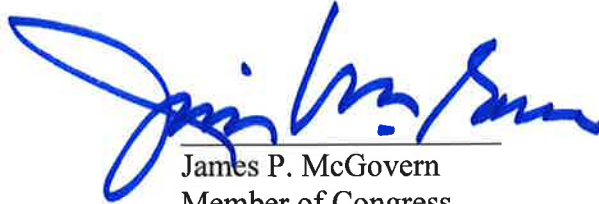
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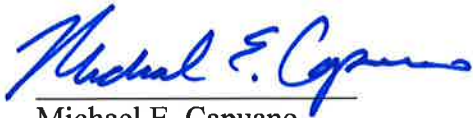
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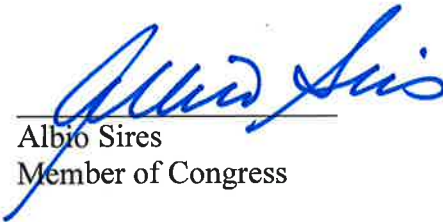
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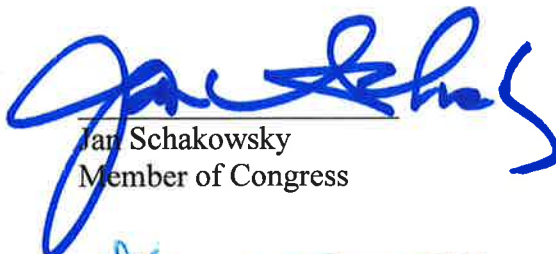
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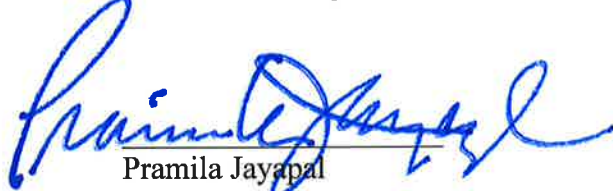
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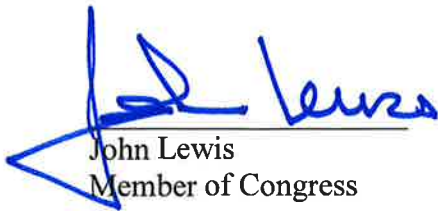
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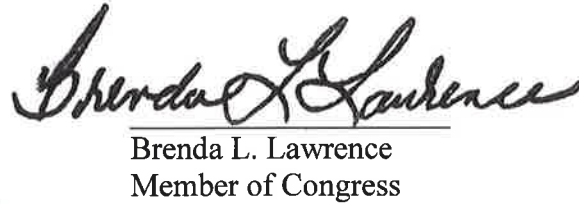
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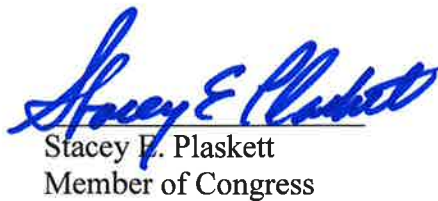
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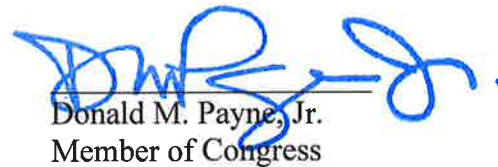
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