

Economic Benefits of Temporary Protected Status

REQUEST

Provide permanent protections to current recipients of Temporary Protected Status.

BACKGROUND

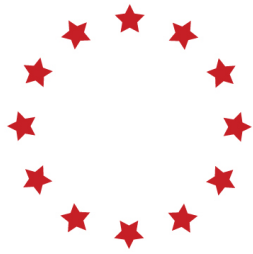
Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a program that allows the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to designate individuals from certain countries to be protected from deportation. Once protected, TPS holders obtain a work permit and must regularly renew their application. DHS can designate a country for TPS if they are experiencing ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster, an epidemic or other extraordinary conditions.

There are over 300,000 TPS holders in the United States. Currently, TPS holders are from El Salvador, Honduras, Haiti, Nepal, Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Nicaragua, Somalia and South Sudan. A small number of Liberians have a status through a similar program known as the Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) program.

Although TPS is labeled as “temporary,” many TPS holders have legally lived in the United States for decades. TPS holders often have children and even grandchildren who are U.S. citizens. Los Angeles is home to an estimated 34,000 TPS holders. They own businesses, homes and are leaders in our communities. They are a critical part of our community.

Over the past two years, the Trump administration made a repeated series of decisions to terminate TPS status for nearly all TPS holders. These decisions occurred incrementally as the renewal of TPS designations occurred on different dates. The decision lacked the dramatics of a DACA termination, but the impact remained the same. Immigrants with legal status would be stripped of their work authorization and subjected to deportation.

In response to these decisions, several organizations filed lawsuits arguing that these decisions were not based on substantiated fact, and in some cases were grounded in racial animus. Since 2018, seven lawsuits have been filed to the U.S. district courts and temporary injunctions currently protected some (but not all) TPS holders. These lawsuits do not provide permanent protection to TPS holders, but merely ask the government to reconsider their decision to terminate. As a result, it is clear that litigation



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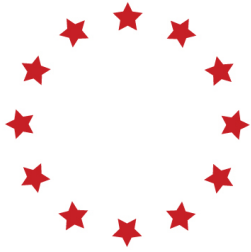
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would not provide TPS holders with permanent protections because the Trump administration could terminate their status again.

TALKING POINTS

- TPS holders have contributed to the American economy by being part of the American workforce, paying taxes, contributing to social security and Medicare, and entrepreneurship. (Immigrant Legal Resource Center: *Economic Contributions by Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian TPS Holders*)
- If TPS holders were to be eliminated from the workforce, it would cost the country \$45.2 billion in GDP over a decade. (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, inc.: *No Time to Lose: The Consequences of the Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure Terminations and Why Congress Must Act Now*)
- California is home to an estimated 109,700 TPS holders across the state, and Los Angeles is home to an estimated 34,000 TPS holders. If TPS holders are forced to return to their home countries en masse, it would harm California and Los Angeles's thriving economy. (Center for American Progress: *TPS Holders Are Integral Members of the U.S. Economy and Society*)
- According to the Center for Migration Studies, TPS holders from El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti have the highest workforce employment with rates ranging from 81 to 88%. (Center for American Progress: *TPS Holders Are Integral Members of the U.S. Economy and Society*)
- TPS holders have been contributing to our thriving economy for the past 20 years. Most holders are part of industries that include construction, food services and restaurants, landscaping services, child care and grocery stores. (Center for American Progress: *TPS Holders Are Integral Members of the U.S. Economy and Society*)
- TPS holders pay into social security and Medicare. The United States would lose a total of \$6.9 billion over a decade if TPS holders are forced to return to their home countries. (Immigrant Legal Resource Center: *Economic Contributions by Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian TPS Holders*)
- If TPS holders can no longer renew their work permits, employers will lose a total of \$967 million in turnover costs which would have a disproportionately negative impact on states such as Florida, New York, California, Texas, Maryland and



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Virginia. (Immigrant Legal Resource Center: *Economic Contributions by Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian TPS Holders*)

- TPS holders are parents of 270,000 U.S. citizen children who would be ripped apart from their parents if TPS protections were to be stripped away. As Californians, we must keep fighting to keep our families and communities together. (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, inc.: *No Time to Lose: The Consequences of the Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure Terminations and Why Congress Must Act Now*)

ATTACHMENTS :

<https://cliniclegal.org/resources/challenges-tps-terminations>

<https://cliniclegal.org/sites/default/files/advocacy/No-Time-to-Lose.pdf>

<https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-18-economic-contributions-by-salvadoran-honduran-and-haitian-tps-holders.pdf>

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/10/20/440400/tps-holders-are-integral-members-of-the-u-s-economy-and-society/>

<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/temporary-protected-status-united-states>

<https://blog.unidosus.org/2017/10/26/construction-industry-tps/>