June 17, 2024

Dear Senators Ossoff and Warnock, and Representatives Bishop, Johnson, McBath, Scott, and Williams:

We are writing as Georgia immigrant, business, and community advocates to encourage you to work with the Biden Administration to provide lawful protections for Georgia's long-term undocumented residents.

The Biden Administration can and should take action to provide Parole in Place for the undocumented spouses of U.S. citizens, take steps to make it faster, easier, and safer for DACA recipients and other eligible individuals to apply for "(d)(3) waivers" so that they can receive a nonimmigrant employment visa without being stuck outside of the U.S. for a long time because of delays or immigration bars, and extend TPS protections to more people from countries in crisis. There are more than 110,000 undocumented Georgians who could be eligible for protections and work permits under these policies. This is in addition to the tens of thousands of U.S. citizen children who live with these individuals. These individuals need your help to continue living and working in the Peach State and to avoid separation from their families.

Most of those eligible for these protections are already working and contributing to their communities. Immigrants account for <u>17 percent of the U.S. GDP</u> and pay nearly <u>\$525 billion</u> annually in federal, state, and local taxes. These protections would allow those already bolstering the U.S. economy to continue to do so permanently and without fear of deportation.

In addition to Parole in Place, the Biden Administration must update the TPS program to expand protections for individuals whose countries meet the statutory requirements for the program, including El Salvador, Honduras, Haiti, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Nepal, Guatemala, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, and Mauritania.

These commonsense policy changes coupled with additional policies that provide relief for family caretakers, ease processes keeping DACA recipients from certain visas, and increase access to Advance Parole would benefit the hard-working immigrant populations in Georgia and provide families with much deserved peace of mind.

It is essential that you as a representative of the great state of Georgia do right by immigrants in Georgia and those who rely on them by standing with us in support of these affirmative relief actions and encouraging the Biden Administration to make these meaningful changes.

Sincerely,

• FWD.us

- Latin American Association
- Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Latino Community Fund (LCF Georgia)
- Business & Immigration for Georgia (BIG) Partnership
- GALEO Impact Fund
- Center for Victims of Torture Georgia
- Coalición de Líderes Latinos (CLILA)
- Corners Outreach, INC
- New American Pathways
- Migrant Equity Southeast
- Freedom University