The Honorable
Alejandro N. Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C., 20528

Washington, D.C., September 8, 2023

RE: Request for Extension of Registration Period for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries of El Salvador and Honduras

Dear Secretary Mayorkas,

We are writing to respectfully request an extension of the registration period for beneficiaries of El Salvador and Honduras under Temporary Protected Status (TPS). As you are well aware, TPS serves as a critical lifeline for our citizens in the United States, and it provides them with temporary relief from deportation, work authorization, and the opportunity to contribute to the communities they serve.

The current TPS registration period expires on September 10, 2023, for El Salvador and January 06, 2024 for Honduras. However, given the automatic extensions due to recent litigation, many TPS beneficiaries believe that their TPS status will be automatically renewed, especially those with work permits set to expire on June 30, 2024. Therefore, the beneficiaries who fail to re-register on time may end up losing their status after decades of holding it.

For this reason, we kindly urge you to extend the registration period, as allowed by the TPS regulations. This extension is crucial to ensuring that TPS beneficiaries have adequate time to re-register so they can maintain their status and continue their contributions to the United States.

We would like to emphasize the positive impact that TPS beneficiaries have in the United States and in our countries. They are law-abiding residents who have built lives here, raised families, and made valuable contributions to our society. Extending the registration period for TPS will allow these individuals to maintain their legal status and continue their contributions to the United States.

We understand and respect the importance of maintaining the integrity of the immigration system and complying with the legal requirements set forth for TPS beneficiaries.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your prompt response and continue to work with the Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to keep beneficiaries informed of the requirements and changes to the process.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Milena Mayorga
Ambassador of El Salvador to the United States

Ambassador Javier Efrain Bu Soto
Ambassador of Honduras to the United States

cc. Ms. Jaddou, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
October 31, 2023

Her Excellency Milena Mayorga
Ambassador of El Salvador
1400 16th St. NW, Ste 100
Washington DC  20036

Dear Madam Ambassador:

Thank you for your September 8, 2023 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requesting an extension of the registration period for beneficiaries of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for El Salvador and Honduras. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

After reevaluating the 60-day re-registration period, DHS determined that it will provide full designation extension periods for applicants to file their re-registration Form I-821, Application for Temporary Status, and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, to obtain an Employment Authorization Document, if desired. As such, on September 8, 2023, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced an extension of the re-registration periods for the TPS designation extensions of El Salvador, Honduras, and several other countries.¹

The 18-month re-registration period under the designation of:
- El Salvador now runs through March 9, 2025; and
- Honduras now runs through July 5, 2025.

A Federal Register notice with additional details of the re-registration period extensions is forthcoming.

In addition to TPS, USCIS may, upon request, grant immigration relief to eligible noncitizens affected by emergencies or unforeseen circumstances. Such relief may include, but is not limited to:²

- Change or extension of nonimmigrant status if eligible nationals are currently in the United States, even if the request is filed after the authorized period of admission has expired;
- Expedited processing of requests for advance parole documents;
- Expedited adjudication of requests for off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship;
- Expedited adjudication of employment authorization applications, where appropriate;
- Assistance if applicants received a Request for Evidence or a Notice of Intent to Deny and were unable to appear for an interview, submit evidence, or respond in a timely manner due to the circumstances; and
- Replacement of lost or damaged immigration or travel documents issued by USCIS, such as a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card).

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. The cosigner of your letter will receive a separate, identical response. Should you require any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ur M. Jaddou
Director