



**TPS  
AWG**

**GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA REQUESTS TPS; 314 ORGANIZATIONS HAVE  
URGED BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO DO THE SAME**

*TPS for Guatemala would protect upwards of 600k undocumented immigrants*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 1, 2021

**CONTACT:** [jose@masadc.com](mailto:jose@masadc.com)

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Earlier this week, Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei [formally requested](#) that the Biden administration designate Guatemala for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), which would protect upwards of [600k Guatemalan nationals](#) in the United States. TPS is a form of immigration protection that provides work authorization and protection from deportation for noncitizens, including undocumented immigrants, who cannot be safely returned to their home country. Guatemala continues to recover from [devastating hurricanes](#) late last year and President Giammattei’s request follows a request from [314 organizations](#) in early March similarly requesting that the administration designate Guatemala for TPS.

**Jose Magaña-Salgado, Campaign Coordinator, TPS Advocacy Working Group, stated:** “Congress explicitly created a tool for the Executive to protect undocumented immigrants in the United States who cannot be safely returned to their home countries—TPS. Moreover, it explicitly stated that one of the prerequisites for a TPS designation on environmental disaster grounds was that a foreign country formally request a designation. President Giammattei’s request satisfies this requirement and removes all obstacles from the administration granting TPS on environmental grounds. The administration *must* designate Guatemala for TPS, particularly in light of [recent groundbreaking research](#) that demonstrates TPS do not increase irregular migration to the United States; and that almost [seven out of ten](#) undocumented immigrants are essential workers.”

In addition to TPS for Guatemala, the TPS Advocacy Working Group has called on the Biden administration to review conditions of at least [17 countries](#) and to use TPS broadly and boldly to safeguard human life.

###