



THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION REDESIGNATES TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS TO SAFEGUARD OVER 400,000 VENEZUELAN IMMIGRANTS FROM DEPORTATION

Today's decision by the Department of Homeland Security is a vital step in saving lives and safeguarding Venezuelans in the United States

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced its decision to redesignate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Venezuela for a period of 18 months. Today's decision provides essential protection for an estimated 472,000 Venezuelan immigrants who sought safety in the United States following the humanitarian crisis, and severe economic, and political instability.

In September 2022, DHS extended TPS for Venezuela for a period of 18 months which was set to expire on March 10, 2024. Today's decision extends protections for over 200,000 current TPS beneficiaries and offers employment authorization and protection from deportation for an additional 400,000 immigrants who are newly eligible under the redesignation.

A coalition of 190 organizations led a [letter](#) to the Biden administration in June 2022, calling for a redesignation to expand protections for individuals who didn't meet the previous cut-off date. Today's decision expands protections for those who have been continuously present in the United States since July 31, 2023.

Adelys Ferro, Executive Director of the Venezuelan American Caucus stated: “For the past several months, organizations like the Venezuelan American Caucus have worked with allies to urge the Biden Administration to use its executive power to redesignate TPS for Venezuela. We applaud the administration for its decision to redesignate and protect those who fled the deterioration of their country of origin. Today’s announcement will safeguard many families and many members of our community. We thank the Biden administration for recognizing our community’s needs and giving many the opportunity to start a new life in the United States.”

The TPS-DED AAC expresses its appreciation to the Biden administration and Secretary Mayorkas for granting these vital safeguards to Venezuelans in the United States. This is a significant win for our community. We call upon the administration to continue using TPS equitably and boldly, including redesignation for countries impacted by the Ramos litigation, as well as swift review and relief for countries dealing with armed conflicts, climate-related disasters, and unique temporary challenges.

Yanira Arias, National Campaigns Manager at Alianza Americas stated: “As a network of Latin American and Caribbean immigrants, we commend the Biden Administration for its decision to redesignate TPS for Venezuela. This measure was long overdue, as Venezuelan nationals have been advocating for redesignation for a long time. The granting of TPS will help alleviate the difficulties asylum seekers have been facing in several states, including New York, Illinois, and Washington, D.C., and will accelerate the process for Venezuelans to obtain work permits. We take this moment to ask the Biden Administration to redesignate TPS for El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Nepal, and to designate TPS for Guatemala. Nationals of these countries merit protection just like Ukrainians and Venezuelans. Families could be torn apart if TPS is not provided for these nations.”

Ramya Reddy, Coordinator of the TPS-DED AAC stated: “The redesignation for Venezuela is a necessary safeguard, and we applaud the government for its decision today. We simultaneously emphasize the need for the prompt adjudication of applications as beneficiaries and those eligible are not receiving prompt protections due to the significant backlogs. We must ensure that impacted individuals are able to expeditiously avail themselves of the protections afforded to them.”

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The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.