

What is TPS - Haiti?

On November 20, 2017, acting Secretary of Homeland Security Elaine Duke announced the Trump administration's decision to terminate temporary protected status for an estimated 59,000 Haitian immigrants in the United States. Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a part of the 1990 Immigration Act by which immigrants who are temporarily unable to return safely home due to ongoing armed conflicts, natural disasters, and other extraordinary conditions could temporarily remain and work in the U.S. TPS-Haiti was established in 2010 under President Barack Obama after the devastating earthquake that killed millions in Haiti and destroyed much of the country's infrastructure.



Written by: YP4 '17 Christelle Etienne

What's next for TPS - Haiti holders?

Administration officials have said that "the extraordinary temporary conditions that served as the initial basis for Haiti's TPS designation have sufficiently improved, so that they no longer prevent Haitian nationals from returning safely" but the humanitarian conditions that gave grounds for TPS-Haiti are still imminent. TPS-Haiti is due to officially expire in July 2019. TPS-Haiti recipients have until then to self-deport or face forced deportation that would criminalize their re-entry into the country.

Who are TPS Haiti holders?

TPS-Haiti status holders are individuals who are being uprooted from their communities and separated from their families. The majority are sole breadwinners for their relatives, so ending this humanitarian program means taking away their means of survival. Thousands of them came here as kids and have no memory or attachment to their motherland. Also, there are now thousands of American-born children of TPS parents who would be left without parents and the Trump Administration has yet to address any sort of plan that would be put in place to care for those children.

What to Know about Advocating for TPS:

Immigrant rights advocates are calling the decision to end TPS-Haiti inhumane. As reported by the Center for American Progress, TPS holders are integral members of the U.S. economy and society. They are valued members and losing them would harm the U.S. economy which would risk to lose 45 billion in GDP and \$6.9 billion in Social Security and Medicare over the next decade.

Ways You Can Support TPS Holders:

- Call on Congress to urge them to extend TPS for all TPS designations.
- Meet with Members of Congress to ask that they save and protect TPS.
- Speak in support of TPS holders and other immigrant communities for comprehensive immigration reforms that protect immigrants and provide them with a pathway to permanent residency and citizenship.
- Learn how immigration regulations affect you and your community.