

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 4, 2017

The Honorable John F. Kelly  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Kelly:


We write to urge you to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian nationals who have been residing in the United States in light of the extraordinary conditions incessantly affecting Haiti. Despite international efforts, Haiti continues to be a nation plagued by economic, health and political instability, and it cannot safely assimilate the more than 50,000 Haitian participants of the TPS program. We strongly encourage you to exercise your authority under Section 224 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) to extend TPS designation before the current grant expires on July 22, 2017.

Haiti has suffered from a devastating earthquake, a cholera epidemic, and a destructive Hurricane Matthew. Its devastated infrastructure cannot possibly accommodate the return of its American Diaspora. The TPS designation was specifically created for foreign states undergoing such difficulties. The 2010 earthquake destroyed 50 healthcare centers around the country, as well as the Ministry of Health building, worsening a healthcare system not capable of meeting the population's basic needs even before the seismic event. In March 2017, the United Nations reported a total of 2.1 million people affected by Hurricane Matthew and 1.5 million people still food-insecure in the affected areas. Exacerbated by three recent years of severe drought, more than 50% of Haiti's food supply continues to be imported, including 80% of the country's main staple. These numbers demonstrate a continued substantial disruption of living conditions in the country.


We know that the United States is not only committed to provide aid to our close neighbor but also to ensure stability in the region. We have a responsibility to ensure that our actions do not exacerbate this palpable humanitarian crisis in the Western Hemisphere. Through your authority provided under the law, the United States can continue supporting the recovery efforts in Haiti and underpin the emergence of a strong partner in the Caribbean.

We urge you to review the present conditions and to immediately extend the grant of TPS designation, within applicable regulations, for at least another 18-month period.

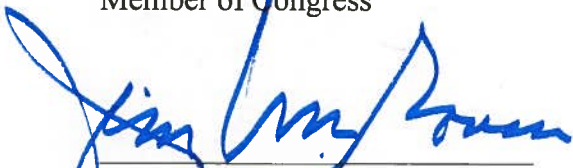
Sincerely,

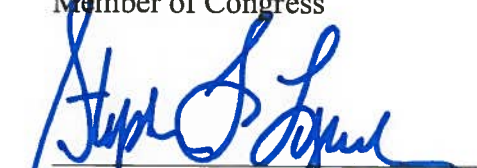
  
Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator


  
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

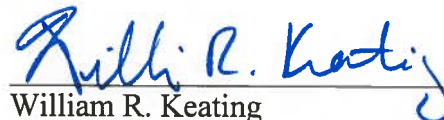
  
Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress

  
Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress

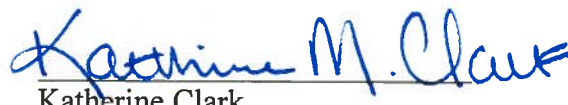
  
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress


  
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

  
Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress

  
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

  
Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress

  
Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress

  
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

cc: State Senator Linda Dorcena-Forry. First Suffolk District  
State Rep. Daniel Cullinane. 12th Suffolk District  
State Rep. William J. Driscoll. 7th Norfolk District  
State Rep. Denise Provost. 27th Middlesex District  
State Rep. Joseph McGonagle Jr. 28th Middlesex District