

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler  
Chairman  
Judiciary Committee  
2138 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member  
Judiciary Committee  
2138 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Jordan,

I am writing on behalf of over 180,000 advocates and supporters of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) in support of the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act (NO BAN Act, H.R. 1333). We were heartened to see President Biden rescind the Muslim and African Bans on his first day in office, but that was only the first step. The NO BAN Act would put protections in place against future discriminatory bans.

NCJW is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. We are commanded *va'havtem et ha-ger* — to love the stranger. As Jews, we know what it is like to seek safety in the US, only to be turned away out of prejudice and under the pretense of “security.” It is imperative that we keep our country open in the future to those fleeing violence or seeking better lives, regardless of how they worship.

More than four years ago, one of President Trump’s first acts in office was to ban Muslims from the United States. Later in his term, he expanded the ban to include several African countries. These bans were never about national security, but rather bigotry and xenophobia. They prevented people from accessing lifesaving health care, pursuing education and career opportunities, and reuniting with family members.

The NO BAN Act would change the Immigration and Nationality Act by outlawing discrimination in the entry of immigrants or nonimmigrants based on religion. It would also put in place key congressional notification and reporting requirements as important safeguards against any future abuses of the authority to suspend or restrict the entry of non-citizens. Presidents would still have the power to issue narrow bans justified by evidence in the name of national security — but they would no longer be able to ban an entire community without culpability.

Everyone deserves to live in safety and security, regardless of where they are from or how they worship. We urge your support for this critical bill. If you have any questions, please contact Faith Williams, Associate Director of Government Relations and Advocacy at [fwilliams@ncjw.org](mailto:fwilliams@ncjw.org).

Sincerely,

Jody Rabhan  
Chief Policy Officer  
National Council of Jewish Women