

Statement for the Record

As many of you know, I am a son of immigrants. And because of the incredible freedoms and opportunities in the United States, my family was able to live the American Dream. We are a nation of immigrants, and our country has always been a beacon of hope for those seeking refuge and freedom.

The United States immigration system is in desperate need of bold reforms that reflect our national values as described above, bolster our economy, support our communities, and keep our nation competitive on the global stage. That is why I applaud President Biden's leadership on important immigration reforms and I look forward to partnering with him on these efforts.

I join with the President and officials from both parties and from every level of government to call for an immediate, definitive path to citizenship for Dreamers. Many of these Dreamers are veterans and business owners, students and parents, firefighters and teachers, essential workers throughout this devastating pandemic. And let us never forget the most important fact about Dreamers: They have known no other home than the country we all share.

The last Administration made critical mistakes and missteps regarding our immigration system, including gutting the Temporary Protected Status ("TPS") program, which is used by people who are fleeing from countries in strife and peril. There must be a path to citizenship for current TPS holders, just as President Biden and many of my colleagues in the House and Senate have proposed. Likewise, I am a strong proponent of the American Dream and Promise Act.

I thank my colleagues for engaging on this critical topic and I look forward to working with each of you to create and implement the critical, bold reforms I have mentioned, and so many others that are necessary to strengthening the ideals which have brought people to our nation since its inception.