

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write to express our deep concern and firm opposition to reports of your administration considering travel bans on as many as 43 nations. We urge you to reconsider this extreme approach as it poses significant economic, moral, and security challenges that outweigh its intended benefits. Instead, your administration must work with Congress to pursue common-sense and bipartisan reforms while also addressing legitimate national security concerns and a secure border; working on pathways to citizenship for hardworking, longtime residents; streamlining the visa process for families and employers; and ensuring compassionate treatment of immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees.

From an economic perspective, expansive travel bans risk undermining America's global competitiveness. International travel, trade, and tourism are drivers of our economy, which is already facing significant pressure from actions taken by your administration. International visitors support millions of American jobs and billions of dollars in revenue for our country. Restricting travel from over 40 nations — some of which are partners in trade and innovation — could disrupt supply chains, deter foreign investment, discourage U.S. employers from hiring badly-needed foreign workers, and strain diplomatic relationships that facilitate our economic growth. Our nation's prosperity depends on secure and mutually beneficial engagement with the world, not isolation, fear, and discrimination towards outsiders.

Additionally, broad travel bans undermine our collective safety and national security, rather than enhance it.¹ History has shown that blanket restrictions alienate allies and fuel adversarial narratives, potentially driving vulnerable populations toward extremism. Our retreat on the global stage — from Ukraine to USAID — is already prompting a turn away from the U.S. and

¹ Totenberg, Nina and Lee Sheehan, "Why Dozens Of National Security Experts Have Come Out Against Trump's Travel Ban." *NPR*, 24 April 2018. <https://www.npr.org/2018/04/24/604949251/why-dozens-of-national-security-experts-have-come-out-against-trumps-travel-ban>.

our values and instead towards our adversaries, like Russia and China.² A travel ban policy perceived as indiscriminate also risks eroding the trust of nations whose intelligence-sharing and counterterrorism efforts are essential to our defense.

There is no national security imperative to wholesale ban travelers from large swaths of the globe. Nationality is an insufficient ground for determining threats to our security.³ During your first administration, thousands of Americans and U.S. residents were separated from their loved ones abroad, including thousands of grandparents, children, husbands, and wives.⁴ It also exacerbated problems at home, like healthcare and other labor shortages.⁵ This reckless action builds on a long list of steps you have taken to undermine, rather than strengthen, our national security and global image.

The United States has long stood as a beacon of freedom and opportunity, welcoming those who seek refuge, education, or simply the chance to contribute to our society and make a better life for themselves and their families. Immigrants and visitors from other countries make us better and stronger. Indeed, this myopic and restrictive policy would inflict unnecessary hardship on families, students, and professionals who pose no threat, while severely tarnishing America's reputation as a compassionate leader on the global stage and a premiere destination for talent and investment.

We await your response and call for an urgent shift in policy towards solutions that serve the best interests of the American people.

Sincerely,


Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress


Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress

² Stuenkel, Oliver, "Trump Can't Bully Latin America Without Consequences." *ForeignPolicy*, 28 January 2025. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2025/01/28/colombia-us-petro-trump-deportation-flights-migration-tariff-threats/>.

³ Forrester, Andrew C., Powell, Benjamin, Nowrasteh, Alex and Michelangelo Landgrave, "Do Immigrants Import Terrorism?" *Cato Institute*, 31 July 2019. <https://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/working-paper-56-update.pdf>.

⁴ Rose, Joel, "Legacy Of President Trump's Travel Ban Will Be Hard For Biden To Erase." *NPR*, 20 January, 2021. <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/20/958517263/legacy-of-president-trumps-travel-ban-will-be-hard-for-biden-to-erase>; Ornstein, Charles, Rochabrun, Michael, and Parris, Terry Jr, "Trump's Travel Ban is Wreaking Havoc on Families, Especially Those With Valid Visas." *ProPublica*, 31 January 2017. <https://www.propublica.org/article/trumps-travel-ban-wreaking-havoc-on-families-especially-with-valid-visas>; Inskip, Steve, Ochsenchlager, Emily, and Rezvani, Arezou, "Families Divided: President Trump's Travel Ban Strands Some U.S. Citizens Abroad." *NPR*, 3 April 2018. <https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2018/04/03/597350163/how-president-trump-s-travel-ban-has-trapped-some-u-s-citizens-abroad>; Bier, David, "Travel Ban Separates Thousands of U.S. Citizens from Their Spouses & Minor Children." *Cato Institute*, 29 January 2019. <https://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/working-paper-56-update.pdf>.

⁵ Peak, Sam, "Trump's Travel Ban Is Worsening Health Care Shortages in Rural America." *Niskanen Center*, 31 January 2019. <https://www.niskanencenter.org/trumps-travel-ban-is-worsening-health-care-shortages-in-rural-america/>.



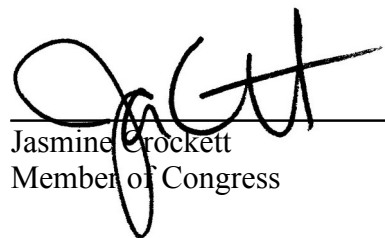
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



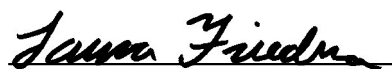
Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



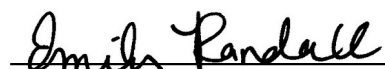
Dave Min
Member of Congress



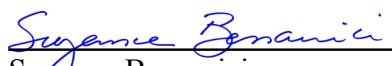
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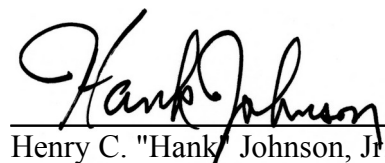
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



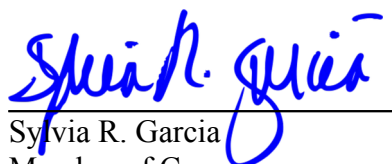
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Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
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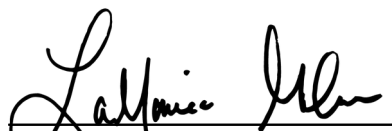
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Sylvia R. Garcia
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LaMonica McIver
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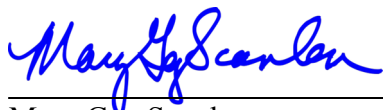
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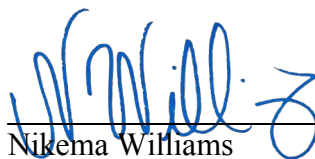
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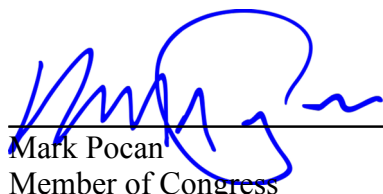
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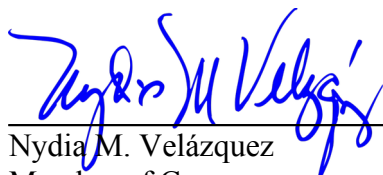
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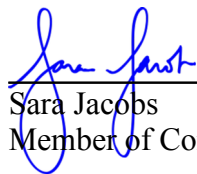
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Zoe Lofgren
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Sara Jacobs
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Jason Crow
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Member of Congress



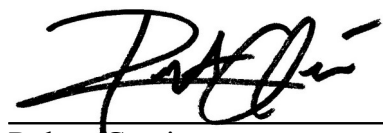
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



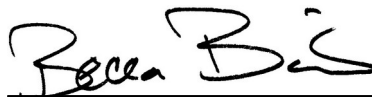
Chellie Pingree
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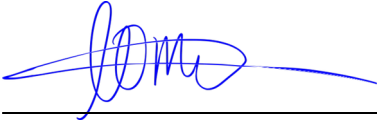
Veronica Escobar
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Robert Garcia
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Becca Balint
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Ilhan Omar
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Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Lori Trahan
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