



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

This proposed rule, if adopted, would have a devastating impact on the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County who are entitled to receive public benefits. Even before the proposed rule was announced, many immigrants were wary of accessing such services provided by the County for fear that it could lead to immigration enforcement actions. The proposed rule would only make that worse, as it would make Los Angeles County residents choose between obtaining a green card and taking care of the basic needs of their family such as food, medical, and housing assistance. Moreover, expanding the guidelines to housing vouchers and assistance would further exacerbate the County's homelessness crisis.

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen
October 5, 2018
Page 2

We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. If this proposed rule is adopted, it will have a drastic, negative impact on public health, public safety, and the well-being of Los Angeles County families and residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



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Supervisor, Second District



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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Paul Ryan
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KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2421 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McCarthy:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

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The Honorable Mitch McConnell
October 5, 2018
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Minority Leader Pelosi:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

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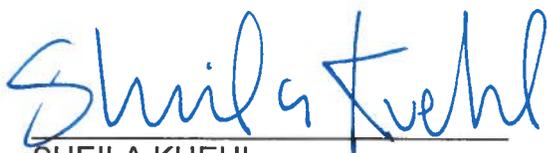
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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Minority Leader Schumer:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

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The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
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KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
House Assistant Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-132 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear House Assistant Minority Leader Clyburn:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

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The Honorable James E. Clyburn
October 5, 2018
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JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Assistant Minority Leader
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Assistant Minority Leader Durbin:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

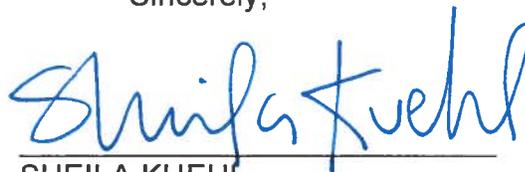
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The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
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KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Nanette Barragán
U.S. House of Representatives
1320 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Barragán:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Nanette Barragán
October 5, 2018
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Karen Bass
U.S. House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bass:

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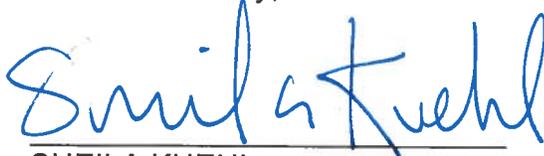
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The Honorable Karen Bass
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Julia Brownley
U.S. House of Representatives
1019 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Brownley:

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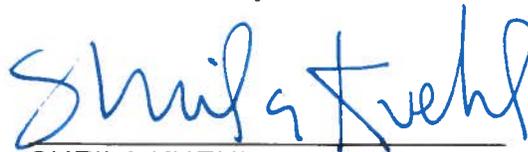
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The Honorable Julia Brownley
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October 5, 2018

The Honorable Tony Cardenas
U.S. House of Representatives
1510 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Cardenas:

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On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

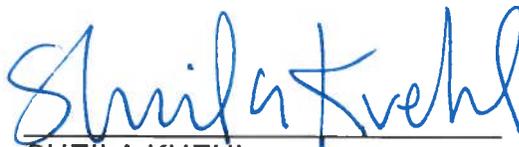
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The Honorable Tony Cardenas
October 5, 2018
Page 2

We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. If this proposed rule is adopted, it will have a drastic, negative impact on public health, public safety, and the well-being of Los Angeles County families and residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District



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HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Judy Chu
U.S. House of Representatives
2423 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Chu:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

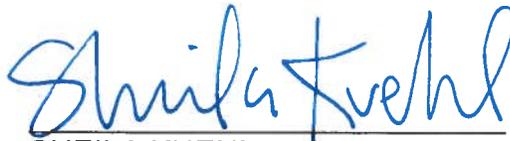
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The Honorable Judy Chu
October 5, 2018
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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

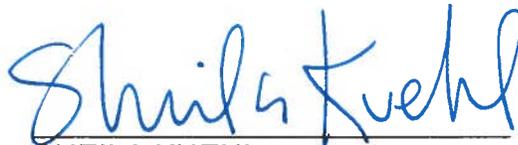
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The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
October 5, 2018
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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



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Supervisor, Fourth District



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JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
U.S. House of Representatives
1226 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Gomez:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

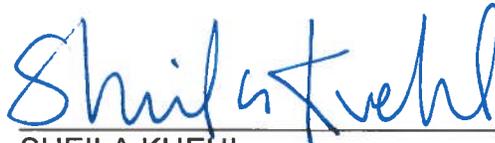
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The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Kamala Harris
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Harris:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

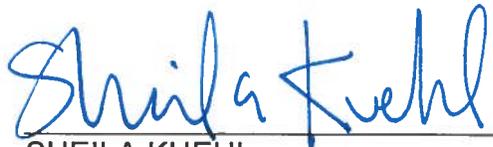
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The Honorable Kamala Harris
October 5, 2018
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Supervisor, Third District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Steve Knight
U.S. House of Representatives
1023 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Knight:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

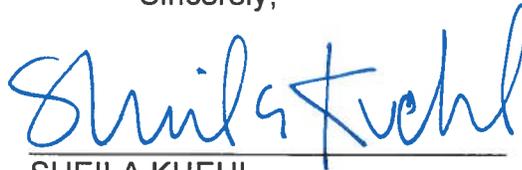
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The Honorable Steve Knight
October 5, 2018
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Chair of the Board
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JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Ted Lieu
U.S. House of Representatives
236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lieu:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Ted Lieu
October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



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Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal
U.S. House of Representatives
125 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lowenthal:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

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The Honorable Alan Lowenthal
October 5, 2018
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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
U.S. House of Representatives
2421 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McCarthy:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
October 5, 2018
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Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
U.S. House of Representatives
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Napolitano:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
October 5, 2018
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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
U.S. House of Representatives
2083 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Roybal-Allard:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

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Chair of the Board
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Supervisor, Fourth District



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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Ed Royce
U.S. House of Representatives
2310 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Royce:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

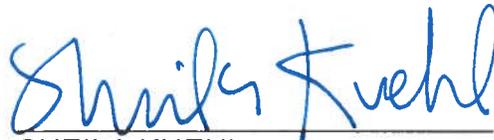
This proposed rule, if adopted, would have a devastating impact on the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County who are entitled to receive public benefits. Even before the proposed rule was announced, many immigrants were wary of accessing such services provided by the County for fear that it could lead to immigration enforcement actions. The proposed rule would only make that worse, as it would make Los Angeles County residents choose between obtaining a green card and taking care of the basic needs of their family such as food, medical, and housing assistance. Moreover, expanding the guidelines to housing vouchers and assistance would further exacerbate the County's homelessness crisis.

The Honorable Ed Royce
October 5, 2018
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We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. If this proposed rule is adopted, it will have a drastic, negative impact on public health, public safety, and the well-being of Los Angeles County families and residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Linda Sánchez
U.S. House of Representatives
2329 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Sánchez:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

This proposed rule, if adopted, would have a devastating impact on the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County who are entitled to receive public benefits. Even before the proposed rule was announced, many immigrants were wary of accessing such services provided by the County for fear that it could lead to immigration enforcement actions. The proposed rule would only make that worse, as it would make Los Angeles County residents choose between obtaining a green card and taking care of the basic needs of their family such as food, medical, and housing assistance. Moreover, expanding the guidelines to housing vouchers and assistance would further exacerbate the County's homelessness crisis.

The Honorable Linda Sánchez
October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



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SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Adam Schiff
U.S. House of Representatives
2372 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Schiff:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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Supervisor, Fourth District



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JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Brad Sherman
U.S. House of Representatives
2181 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Sherman:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

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The Honorable Brad Sherman
October 5, 2018
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Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Norma Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
1713 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Torres:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

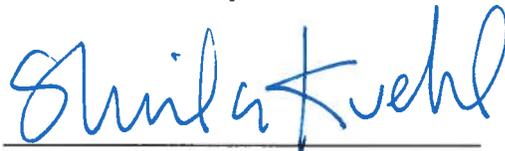
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The Honorable Norma Torres
October 5, 2018
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We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. If this proposed rule is adopted, it will have a drastic, negative impact on public health, public safety, and the well-being of Los Angeles County families and residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Maxine Waters
U.S. House of Representatives
2221 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Waters:

We are writing to express our opposition to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge," as these changes will cause significant harm to Los Angeles County residents.

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

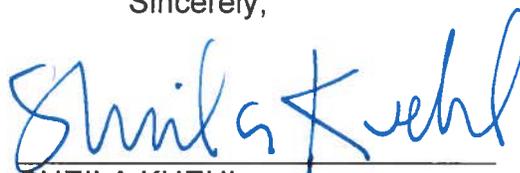
This proposed rule, if adopted, would have a devastating impact on the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County who are entitled to receive public benefits. Even before the proposed rule was announced, many immigrants were wary of accessing such services provided by the County for fear that it could lead to immigration enforcement actions. The proposed rule would only make that worse, as it would make Los Angeles County residents choose between obtaining a green card and taking care of the basic needs of their family such as food, medical, and housing assistance. Moreover, expanding the guidelines to housing vouchers and assistance would further exacerbate the County's homelessness crisis.

The Honorable Maxine Waters
October 5, 2018
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We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. If this proposed rule is adopted, it will have a drastic, negative impact on public health, public safety, and the well-being of Los Angeles County families and residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Attorney General, State of California
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Attorney General Becerra:

We are writing to express our support for the State of California's efforts to protect California residents, regardless of their immigration status, by taking all necessary action to challenge the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) proposed rulemaking to expand guidelines for determining whether an individual is considered a "public charge."

On September 22, 2018, DHS announced a proposed rule that would expand the criteria the Department may consider in making a "public charge" determination that in turn would allow Federal officials to deny non-citizens admission into the U.S. or to deny lawful permanent resident status to individuals already in the U.S. legally. It would also prevent legal non-citizens from extending their existing immigration status or adjusting their immigration status. Although current guidelines do not allow Federal officials to consider non-cash benefits as part of public charge assessments, the proposed rule departs from this decades-long practice by the Federal government. The proposed rule would expand the guidelines to include non-cash benefits such as nutrition assistance, housing subsidies, or healthcare programs such as Medicaid.

This proposed rule, if adopted, would have a devastating impact on the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County who are entitled to receive public benefits. Even before the proposed rule was announced, many immigrants were wary of accessing services provided by the County for fear that it could lead to immigration enforcement actions. The proposed rule would only make that worse, and would therefore jeopardize public health, public safety, and the well-being of families with members who are both citizens and noncitizens, including U.S. citizen children.

We have a moral and civic responsibility to every one of our residents, regardless of immigration status, to deliver important public services and benefits that improve their quality of life. Therefore, we support your efforts on behalf of the State of California to

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
October 5, 2018
Page 2

protect these valuable members of our community and their families in your response to DHS' proposed rulemaking.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



SHEILA KUEHL
Chair of the Board
Supervisor, Third District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Second District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District