

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **Senator Padilla Introduces Legislation that would provide protection to 8 Million Immigrants, including TPS and DACA beneficiaries**

**San Francisco, CA** — Today, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) introduced legislation that would extend a pathway to permanency for millions of long-term U.S. residents. The *Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929* would update the existing Registry statute so that an immigrant may qualify for lawful permanent resident status if they have lived in the U.S. continuously for at least seven years before filing an application for lawful permanent resident status and are of good moral character. The bill is co-sponsored by Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.), and Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.).

The legislation would provide the urgently needed pathway to a green card for up to 8 million people, including Dreamers, forcibly displaced citizens (TPS holders), children of long-term visa holders who face deportation, essential workers, and highly skilled members of our workforce such as H-1B visa holders who have been waiting years for a green card to become available. The passing of this bill would constitute a win both for millions of mixed status families, and for the nation given estimates that the benefiting population would contribute approximately \$83 billion to the U.S. economy annually and about \$27 billion in taxes. Companion legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (D-Calif.-19).

“The immigrant community in the U.S. not only contribute to the economic engine of cities, states and the nation, but have more than demonstrated their sacrifice and hard work during the worst of the COVID pandemic, where TPS and DACA beneficiaries, farm workers, janitors, childcare providers, frontline health workers, and other essential workers kept food on the nation’s tables, packaged and transported our goods, and risked their lives to keep the nation going. For decades federal representatives have failed to protect our neighbors, students, coworkers, and community members by refusing to legislate a pathway to permanency.

(Continued) We celebrate Senators Padilla, Warren & Durbin as well as Congresswoman Lofgren for their actions and proposal to update the existing Registry, which is common sense policy, an existing framework, and most importantly would end the unnecessary harm millions of individuals, children, youth and families have been forced to endure simply because their existence has become a political talking point to inflame hate, xenophobia and racism in this country.” Said Lariza Dugan Cuadra, Executive Director of CARECEN San Francisco.

Today members of SF Immigrant community met with Senator Padilla’s staff to learn more about the proposal and extend their support and appreciation for his actions in a time when other politicians in Washington, DC have stated that there is simply “not a political appetite for this right now.” Padilla and other supporters of this proposal are showing the community that they are and will continue to represent the interests of ALL people in their districts and most importantly that they have no intention to play politics with the lives of our community.

Full text of the bill is available [here](#).

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CARECEN SF empowers and responds to the needs, rights and aspirations of Latino, immigrant, and under-resourced families in the San Francisco Bay Area — building leadership to pursue self-determination and justice. Rooted in its cultural strengths and inspired by the Central American justice struggles, CARECEN SF envisions our diverse immigrant community as thriving; where families prosper, build effective community institutions, and participate confidently in civic life. Learn more about our history and work at [www.carecensf.org](http://www.carecensf.org).