

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write today to express our strong support for resettling refugees in our states and communities and urge you to resettle at least 75,000 refugees in the coming fiscal year. We appreciate your desire to ensure that the voices of states and local communities are heard in this process, which is why we join together in support of this life-saving program.

Every day, 34,000 people will be newly displaced from their home because of violence, persecution, and war. The United Nations reports that over 65 million people are already forcibly displaced worldwide, around 25 million of whom are registered as refugees. Over half of those registered are children. These staggering numbers are truly hard to fathom. At no time in mankind's collective memory have so many been without a place to call home.

Since before our founding, America's shores have been a refuge for those seeking freedom, safety, and a new chance at life. We are a country founded and built by immigrants and refugees. It's what makes our collective states and communities strong. What unites us is our deep respect for hard work, our shared commitment to the country we call home, and our belief that America is a beacon of hope.

As elected leaders in our states and communities, we know the value that refugees bring to our communities. Refugees aren't a burden - they are what makes our country great. Refugees have reinvigorated our economies, brought innovation, and made our communities stronger through their contributions to our public and cultural institutions. They are students, business owners, dedicated employees, customers, elected officials, leaders, and friends.

We have heard from countless of our constituents expressing their support for resettling refugees in our communities. Like us, they know that refugees aren't people to be feared - they are individuals in need.

As the world searches for solutions to the largest refugee crisis in global history, we have a moral and legal obligation to refugees seeking a chance to rebuild their lives and create a better future for their families. We encourage you to visit our communities and hear from our community members, and refugees themselves, what this life-saving program has brought to our country.

Our cities, our states, and our country can help refugees in their greatest time of need. And they have and can help us. We thank you for taking the voices of states and communities into account as you set the amount of refugees our country seeks to help in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Arkansas

Lionel Jordan, Mayor, Fayetteville

Arizona

Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor, Tucson

Lela Alston, State Representative, Legislative District 24

Ken Clark, State Representative, Phoenix

Katie Hobbs, Senator, Phoenix, Arizona

Kate Gallego, Councilwoman, Phoenix

California

Robert Garcia, Mayor, Long Beach

Libby Schaaf, Mayor, Oakland

Marc Levine, Assemblymember, North Bay

Colorado

Michael B. Hancock, Mayor, City and County of Denver

Steve Hogan, Mayor, Aurora

Rhonda Fields, Senator, Denver

Dafna Michaelson Jenet, State Representative, Commerce City

Paul Rosenthal, State Representative, Denver

Connecticut

David Baram, State Representative, District 15

Derek Slap, State Representative, District 19

District of Columbia

Muriel Bowser, Mayor

Brianne K. Nadeau, Councilmember

Elissa Silverman, At-Large Councilmember

Florida

Lori Berman, Representative, Lantana

Joseph Geller, State Representative, District 100

Amy Mercado, Representative, Orlando

Georgia

Ted Terry, Mayor, Clarkston

Michele Henson, State Representative, Stone Mountain

Idaho

Hy Kloc, State Representative, Boise

Illinois

George Van Dusen, Mayor, Skokie
Sara Feigenholtz, State Representative, Assistant Majority Leader, Chicago
Kelly Cassidy, State Representative, 14th District
Laura Fine, State Representative, 17th District
Robyn Gabel, State Representative, 18th District

Kentucky

Tom Burch, State Representative, Louisville
Joni Jenkins, Representative, District 44
Morgan McGarvey, State Senator, District 19
Susan Westrom, State Representative, 79th District
Angela Evans, Council Member, Lexington
Kathy Plomin, Council Member, Lexington Fayette County, Lexington

Maine

Denise Tepler, Representative, District 54

Maryland

Candace B. Hollingsworth, Mayor, Hyattsville
Brian J. Feldman, Senator, District 15
Susan C. Lee, Senator, Bethesda
Richard S. Madaleno, Jr., State Senator, Kensington
Roger Manno, Senator, District 19
Craig J. Zucker, Senator, Brookeville
Kathleen Dumais, Delegate, Rockville
David Fraser-Hidalgo, Delegate, Boyds
Shelly Hettleman, Delegate, Maryland General Assembly, Baltimore County
Anne Kaiser, Delegate, Silver Spring
Eric Luedtke, Delegate, Burtonsville
Aruna Miller, State Delegate, Darnestown
David Moon, Maryland House of Delegates, Takoma Park
Dan Morhaim, M.D., Delegate, Baltimore
Joseline Peña-Melnyk, Delegate, Annapolis
Kirill Reznik, Delegate, Germantown
Jeff Waldstreicher, Delegate, Montgomery County
Kumar Barve, Chairman, Rockville
Marc Elrich, Councilmember (At-large), Montgomery County
Nancy Floreen, Councilmember At-Large, Montgomery County
Edouard Haba, Council Member, Hyattsville
Sidney A. Katz, Montgomery County Council, Rockville
Isiah Leggett, County Executive, Montgomery County
George Leventhal, Montgomery County Councilmember, Rockville

Massachusetts

Alex Morse, Mayor, Holyoke
Setti D. Warren, Mayor, Newton
Harriette L. Chandler, State Senate Majority Leader, Worcester
Ruth B. Balsler, Representative, Newton
Bryan Barash, Newton Charter Commission, Newton

Michigan

Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor, Grand Rapids
Steven Maas, Mayor, Grandville
Robert Wittenberg, State Representative, Oak Park

Minnesota

Mark Dayton, Governor

Betsy Hodges, Mayor, Minneapolis
Ilhan Omar, State Representative, Minneapolis
Sandy Pappas, Senator, St. Paul
Lisa Goodman, Council Member, Minneapolis

Missouri

Sue Meredith, State Representative, St. Louis

New Jersey

Domenick Stampone, Mayor, Borough of Haledon
Loretta Weinberg, Senator, Senate Majority Leader, Teaneck

New York

Hon. Noam Bramson, Mayor, New Rochelle
Byron W. Brown, Mayor, Buffalo
Kathy Sheehan, Mayor, Albany
Lovely Warren, Mayor, Rochester
Liz Krueger, State Senator, 28th District
Jo Anne Simon, Assemblymember, Brooklyn
Stephanie Hausner, Councilwoman, Clarkstown
Charles D. Lavine, New York State Assemblymember, Glen Cove
David I. Weprin, Assemblyman; Co-President of the National Association of Jewish Legislators (NAJL), Holliswood
Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker, New York City Council
Amy R. Paulin, Assemblywoman, District 88
Hon. Richard Gottfried, Assembly Member, New York
David A. Rivera, Niagra District Council Member
Nily Rozic, NYS Assemblywoman, Queens
Gregory Young, Supervisor, City of Gloversville, Ward 5

New Hampshire

Cindy Rosenwald, Representative, Nashua

North Carolina

Jay Chaudhuri, State Senator, Raleigh

Graig Meyer, Representative, District 50

Ohio

Andrew J. Ginther, Mayor, Columbus

Elizabeth C. Brown, Council Member, Columbus

Daniel O'Malley, City Councilmember, Ward 4, Lakewood

Oregon

Michael E. Dembrow, Senator, Portland

Pennsylvania

Jim Kenney, Mayor, Philadelphia

Dan Frankel, State Representative, Allegheny County

Mike Schlossberg, State Representative, Allentown

Judith L. Schwank, State Senator, Reading

Jared G. Solomon, Representative, Philadelphia County

Brian Sims, Representative, Philadelphia

Rhode Island

Jorge Elorza, Mayor, Providence

Jeanine Calkin, Senator, District 31

Gayle Goldin, Senator, Providence

Joshua Miller, Senator, Cranston

Texas

Steve Adler, Mayor, Austin

Ron Nirenberg, Mayor, San Antonio

Sylvester Turner, Mayor, Houston

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge, Dallas

Eddie Rodriguez, State Representative HD-51 and Policy Chair, Mexican American Legislative Caucus, Austin

Diego M. Bernal, State Representative, District 123

Sylvia R. Garcia, State Senator, Houston

Celia Israel, State Representative, Travis County

Ina Minjarez, State Representative, San Antonio

Ron Reynolds, State Representative, District 27

Toni Rose, State Representative, District 110

Hubert Vo, State Representative, District 149

Utah

Jackie Biskupski, Mayor, Salt Lake City
Rob Dahle, Mayor, Holladay
Ben McAdams, Mayor, Salt Lake County
Jani Iwamoto, Senator, Minority Caucus Manager, Holladay
Patrice Arent, Representative, Millcreek
Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Representative, Salt Lake City
Jim Dabakis, Senator, District 2
Sandra Hollins, Representative, Salt Lake City
Dr. Karen Kwan, State Representative, D34, Taylorsville
Carol Spackman Moss, Representative, Salt Lake City
Mark A. Wheatley, Representative, Salt Lake City

Vermont

David Zuckerman, Lieutenant Governor
Miro Weinberger, Mayor, Burlington
Paul S. Belaski, State Representative, Windsor-1
William Botzow II, Representative, Bennington-1
Tim Briglin, Representative, Thetford
Jessica Brumsted, Representative, Shelburne
Susan M. Buckholz, State Representative, Windsor 4-1
Selene Colburn, Representative, Chittenden 6-4
Peter Conlon, Representative, Cornwall
Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Representative, Bradford
David L. Deen, Representative, Westminster
Rachael Fields, Representative, Bennington
Diana Gonzalez, State Representative, Winooski
Maxine Grad, Representative, Washington-7
Helen Head, Representative, South Burlington
Debbie Ingram, Senator, Williston
Warren Kitzmiller, Representative, Washington-4
Bill Lippert, Representative, Hinesburg
Ruqaiyah Morris, State Representative, Bennington
Jean O'Sullivan, Representative, Chittenden 6-2
Ann Pugh, Representative, South Burlington
Robin Scheu, Representative, Middlebury
Michael Sirotkin, Senator, South Burlington
Mary Sullivan, Representative, Chittenden 6-5
Trevor J. Squirrel, State Representative, Chittenden 3
Maida F. Townsend, State Representative, South Burlington
Jeanette White, Senator, Putney
Theresa Wood, State Representative, Waterbury
Michael Yantachka, Representative, Charlotte
Brandon Batham, City Councilor, Ward 2, Barre
Eric Covey, City Councilor, (At-Large), Winooski

Richard S. Deane, City Councilor, Burlington
Ali Dieng, Councilor, Burlington
Ashley A. Hill, City Councilor, District 3, Montpelier
Chip Mason, City Councilor, Burlington
Michael D. McCarthy, City Councilor, Ward 4, St. Albans
Karen Paul, City Councilor, Burlington
Joan Shannon, City Councilor, Burlington
Brian Sweeney, Councilor, Winooski
Max Tracy, City Councilor, Burlington
Anne Watson, City Councilor, Montpelier

Virginia

Justin Wilson, Vice Mayor, Alexandria
Adam P. Ebbin, State Senator, 30th District
Barbara A. Favola, Member, Senate of Virginia, Arlington
David W. Marsden, Senator, Burke
Scott A. Surovell, Senator, Fairfax, Prince William, and Stafford Counties
John C. Cook, Fairfax County Supervisor - Braddock District
Jennifer B. Boysko, Delegate, Herndon
Kaye Kory, Delegate, Falls Church
Paul Krizek, Delegate, Mount Vernon
Mark H. Levine, Member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Alexandria
Alfonso Lopez, Delegate, Arlington
Kenneth R. Plum, Delegate, Reston
Marcus Simon, Delegate, Falls Church

Washington

Jay Inslee, Governor

Edward B. Murray, Mayor, Seattle
Reuven Carlyle, State Senator, Seattle
Mia Gregerson, State Representative, SeaTac
Jake Fey, State Representative, 27th Legislative District
Joe Fitzgibbon, State Representative, 34th Legislative District
David S. Frockt, Senator, Seattle
Roger Goodman, Representative, 45th Legislative District
Monica Jurado Stonier, State Representative, Vancouver
Ruth Kagi, Representative, Shoreline
Shelley Kloba, State Representative, Kirkland
Marko Liias, Senator, Lynnwood
Nicole Macri, Representative, 43rd Legislative District
Joan McBride, Representative, 48th Legislative District
Sharon K. Nelson, Democratic Caucus Leader, Vashon
Jamie Pedersen, Senator, Seattle
Kevin Ranker, Senator, 40th District
Kristiné Reeves, Representative, Federal Way

David Sawyer, State Representative, Tacoma
Tana Senn, Representative, 41st Legislative District
Derek Stanford, State Representative, 1st Legislative District
Gael Tarleton, Representative, Seattle
Javier Valdez, State Representative, Seattle

Wisconsin

Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive, Milwaukee County