

April 26, 2022

Dear Members of Congress,

We write to urge you to oppose any extension of restrictions on asylum seekers under the Title 42 policy. As advocates for an equitable health system, we believe that blocking migrants from presenting their lawful cases for asylum has no beneficial health impact for our nation.

Title 42 has been in place since March of 2020 and extended numerous times since then. However, given the lack of evidence for its public health justification, its continuation has become untenable. Therefore, on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) terminated the order, [stating](#) that “current public health conditions and an increased availability of tools to fight COVID-19,” means that, “suspending the right to introduce migrants into the United States is no longer necessary.”

Title 42 has never had a clear connection to addressing the spread of COVID-19. For months, experts such as in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) and [Health Affairs](#), as well as [United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees](#) and [Doctors Without Borders](#) have continued to state that there is no public health justification for Title 42. A [group](#) of over 1,300 doctors called it “junk science with no grounding in evidence.” Public health leaders at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University [stated](#) that Title 42, “exploits the COVID-19 pandemic to expel or block from the country people seeking asylum.” Immigrants have been [essential](#) in combatting the COVID-19 crisis making up roughly 1 in 5 [essential workers](#), 1 in 5 health care workers and 1 in 4 long-term care workers. Immigrants make important contributions to our national economy, while continuing to face systemic [barriers](#) to health insurance and health care services.

Congress should address this pandemic by expanding access to vaccines and preventative measures, not by furthering anti-immigrant policies. Yet some are blocking funding to fight the virus while proposing to tie Title 42 to the Public Health Emergency (PHE). Ending the PHE is expected to [result](#) in over 12 million Medicaid beneficiaries losing coverage, and tying Title 42 to it pits health needs against border policies. PHEs have a particular purpose: to create flexibility and certainty for providers, issuers, and patients so the health care system can meet the country’s needs. Especially given doctors, hospitals, community health centers and others face a sudden lapse of resources to fight the pandemic, it is not time to tie the hands of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Due to the lack of public health justifications, we ask that you oppose any bills or amendments that restrict the ability of the CDC to end the harmful Title 42 policy. If the nation desires a robust and healthy debate about immigration reforms, it should be considered within its own context, not entangled with urgently needed COVID-19 funding.

Sincerely,

National Immigration Law Center  
Center for Law and Social Policy  
Community Catalyst  
UnidosUS  
ACA Consumer Advocacy  
AIDS Foundation Chicago (Illinois )

Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice (Alabama )  
American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Public Health Association  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)  
Autistic Self Advocacy Network  
Be a Hero  
CASA  
Casa San Jose (Pennsylvania )  
Catholics for Choice  
Center for Disability Rights  
Center for the Healing of Racism (Texas )  
Center for the Study of Social Policy  
Children At Risk (Texas )  
Coalicion de Lideres Latinos-CLILA (Georgia )  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) (California )  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Colorado Children's Campaign (Colorado )  
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (Colorado )  
Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition (Colorado )  
Colorado Latino Leadership Advocacy and Research Organization (Colorado )  
CommonSpirit Health  
Community Change Action  
Detroit Change Initiative (Michigan )  
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)  
Doctors for Camp Closure  
Each One Teach One Together, Inc (Georgia )  
El Pueblo Unido of Atlantic City Y Pueblos Cercanos (New Jersey )  
Erie Family Health Centers  
Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (Iowa )  
Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM) Action  
Families USA  
Family Connection of South Carolina- Parent Center (South Carolina )  
Family Voices  
Family Voices NJ (New Jersey )  
Farmworker Justice  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Florida Health Justice Project (Florida )  
Futures Without Violence  
GALEO Impact Fund (Georgia )  
Georgia Budget and Policy Institute (Georgia )  
Georgians for a Healthy Future (Georgia )  
Houston Coalition Against Hate (HCAH) (Texas )  
Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative (Texas )

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) (Illinois )  
Immigrant Defense Advocates (California )  
Immigration Hub  
Justice in Aging  
Kentucky Equal Justice Center (Kentucky )  
Kids LikeMoses Advocacy, Inc. (Georgia )  
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement  
Latino Action Network Foundation (LANF) (New Jersey )  
Latino Community Fund INC (LCF Georgia) (Georgia )  
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
Legal Council for Health Justice (Illinois )  
Livermore Indivisible (California )  
Maine Parent Federation (Maine )  
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) (Massachusetts )  
NALCAB  
NARAL Pro-Choice America  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders  
National Association of Community Health Workers  
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, & Community Empowerment (National PLACE)  
National Community Action Partnership  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Health Law Program  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice  
National Network for Arab American Communities  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
Nebraska Appleseed (Nebraska )  
North Carolina AIDS Action Network (North Carolina )  
O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law  
Parent Information Center of Delaware (Delaware )  
Partners In Health  
Partnership for Southern Equity (Georgia )  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Positive Women's Network-USA  
Prevention Institute  
R2H Action [Right to Health]  
Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights  
Saratoga Immigration Coalition (New York )  
SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center (South Carolina )  
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (New Jersey )  
SPLC Action Fund  
Tahirih Justice Center  
Tennessee Justice Center (Tennessee )  
Texans Care for Children (Texas )

The Children's Partnership (California )  
The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy and Innovation  
The Gerontological Society of America  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
The Parents' Place of MD (Maryland )  
The Workers Circle  
Total Family Care Coalition (District of Columbia )  
Treatment Action Group  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut (Connecticut )  
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity  
Virginia Organizing (Virginia )