**DRAFT DUE PROCESS LTE TEMPLATE 4-29-2025**

**Due Process is Under Threat for Everyone—Including Citizens**

The Right to Fair Treatment Is At Risk

Due process is a fundamental right guaranteed by the US Constitution. It protects all people—citizens and non-citizens alike—against arbitrary government decisions and ensures fairness in legal matters. It’s a basic promise: before the government can take away someone’s life, freedom, or property, they must have a fair chance to defend themselves.

But today, that promise is under serious threat.

In April, the US Supreme Court deliberated whether non-citizens have any right to a fair legal process before being removed from the country. Although the justices had different views on how much process is due, the Court decided: due process protections apply to everyone in America, regardless of immigration status.

This reaffirmation comes at a time when immigration policies have made it easier to deport people without traditional legal hearings—raising urgent questions about the strength and future of constitutional protections for all of us.

[DEPENDING ON THE DEMOGRAPHICS/SPECIFIC NEEDS OF YOUR COMMUNITY, SELECT SOME OF THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS AND ADJUST THEM TO FIT YOUR COMMUNITY]

* In [our community/state], many of our neighbors, co-workers, and friends are immigrants. Policies that deny fair hearings make it harder for them to explain their cases before a judge—and harder for judges to make fair decisions.
* In [our community/state], we have many families with mixed immigration status. These rapid deportation policies can break up families, leaving U.S. citizen children without parents.
* In [our community/state], we have young people who came to the U.S. as children. Without guaranteed legal representation, even toddlers must navigate complex court proceedings alone, often without understanding their rights.
* In [our community/state], we value fairness and justice. Weakening due process protections for some puts all of our rights at risk. If the government can take away someone else’s rights without a hearing, what prevents them from doing the same to you?

Due process means having access to a fair hearing before a neutral judge. It means having the right to speak with a lawyer. It means protecting the integrity of our legal system—and protecting our communities.

When due process is denied to any group, it weakens the rule of law for all Americans.

Readers can take action by raising their voices in support of fair legal process for everyone. With the amount of misinformation and disinformation, we must start having honest and factual conversations about why due process matters and how it protects us all with our friends and family. Write to your elected officials and urge them to uphold policies that guarantee fair hearings and access to legal representation for immigrants and citizens alike. Support local organizations that provide legal aid to people facing deportation without a lawyer. Attend or organize community forums to educate others about how attacks on due process in immigration courts could erode constitutional protections for everyone. Most importantly, remember that standing up for due process isn’t just about protecting others—it’s about defending the fundamental rights that make America a place of justice and fairness for all.

We must stand up for the principle that everyone deserves a fair chance before the government can make life-altering decisions. Protecting due process for immigrants protects it for every one of us.