



City of Chicago



R2019-425

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 6/12/2019

Sponsor(s): Villegas (36)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for Secretary of Department of Homeland Security to designate Venezuela Temporary Protection Status and expression of support for House Bill 549 and Senate Bill 636 concerning Venezuelan Temporary Protection Status Act of 2019

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Health and Human Relations

WHEREAS, Temporary Protection Status (TPS) is a temporary immigration status granted by the United States to eligible nationals of TPS designated countries; and

WHEREAS, During the temporary designation period, eligible nationals may remain in the United States and may not be detained by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) based solely on immigration status, and may obtain employment and travel authorization; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of DHS has the authority to provide TPS to immigrants present in the United States who are unable to safely return to their home country due to an ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions that prevent safe return. An individual is only eligible for TPS benefits if he or she: (i) establishes continuous physical presence in the United States since the date specified by DHS; (ii) is not subject to one of the criminal, security-related or other bars to TPS; and (iii) applies for TPS benefits in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, To be eligible for TPS, an individual must (a) be a national of the foreign country with a TPS designation (or if stateless, have last habitually resided in a country with a TPS designation), (b) be continuously physically present in the United States since the effective date of designation, (c) have continuously resided in the United States since a date specified by the Secretary of DHS, and (d) not be inadmissible to the United States or be barred from asylum for certain criminal or national security-related reasons, such as individuals who have been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors; and

WHEREAS, A country's TPS designation takes effect on the date the designation is published and may last between six to 18 months, with the possibility of an extension. Once the Secretary of DHS terminates a TPS designation, TPS beneficiaries revert to the same immigration status they had prior to TPS or to any status they may have acquired while registered for TPS; and

WHEREAS, The future of tens of thousands of Venezuelan immigrants in the United States remains unclear as the U.S. government has not added Venezuela to the list of TPS designation countries regardless of Venezuela's economic, humanitarian, security, and refugee crisis that has resulted in extraordinary and temporary conditions that currently prevent Venezuelan nationals from safely returning to Venezuela. At the local level, Venezuelans have been incessantly arriving to the city of Chicago since 2014 constituting the fastest growing immigrant community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, call upon the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to designate Venezuela under subsection (b)(1)(C) of section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C 1254a) for a period of 18 months to permit nationals of Venezuela to be eligible for temporary protected status in accordance with such section.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, support the House of Representatives Bill 549 (H.R.549), Venezuelan TPS Act of 2019, introduced by the United States Congressmen Darrien Soto and Mario Diaz-Balart and Senate Bill 636, introduced by United States Senator Bob Menendez and cosponsored by United States Senator

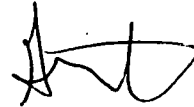
Chicago City Council

June 12th, 2019

Referred to Human Relations and Health

Marco Rubio. Both Bills would designate Venezuela under Section 244 of the Immigration and nationality Act to permit nationals of Venezuela to be eligible for temporary protected status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to the Illinois General Assembly, each member of the U.S. Congressional delegation from Illinois, the Department of Homeland Security, and President Trump.



GILBERT VILLEGAS
ALDERMAN, 36th Ward