

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 15, 2015

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Johnson,

We are writing to urge you to designate Guatemala for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). As you know, there are thousands of Guatemalans who currently reside in the United States and are unable to securely return to their home country due to the ongoing environmental disasters and violence that have severely impacted their country.

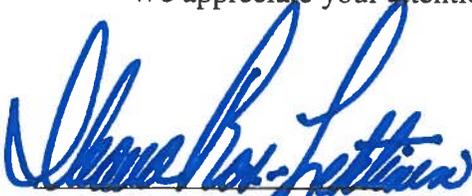
It is our understanding that the Guatemalan government has petitioned for TPS on numerous occasions since 2010, but has not received final approval. Under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a foreign country for TPS due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately. Guatemala has been afflicted with mudslides, earthquakes, consistent destructive tropical weather patterns, drought, and hardship over the past several years, which we believe should make it eligible for TPS designation.

Additionally, TPS designation for Guatemala would demonstrate the U.S. commitment to the Guatemalan people. As you know, the recent renewal of the United Nations International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) is a very positive sign and demonstrates the commitment by the Guatemalan people to improve rule of law in the country.

Within all applicable rules and regulations, we urge you to designate Guatemala for TPS. We believe it is imperative to provide humanitarian relief to Guatemala.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Member of Congress



MARIO DIAZ-BALART
Member of Congress



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



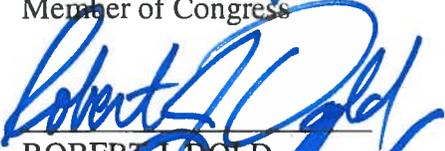
ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress



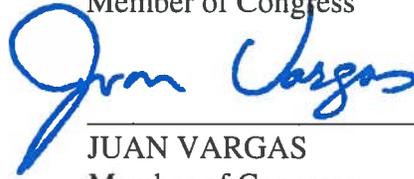
CARLOS CURBELO
Member of Congress



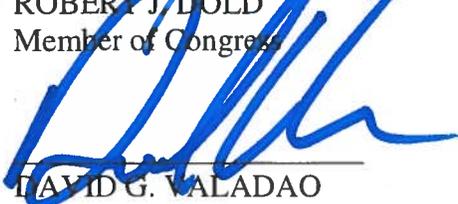
TONY CARDENAS
Member of Congress



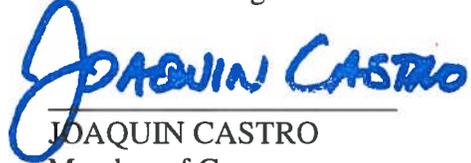
ROBERT J. DOLD
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



DAVID G. VALADAO
Member of Congress



JOAQUIN CASTRO
Member of Congress