

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Grace Meng
U.S. House of Representatives
2206 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ed Markey
U.S. Senate
255 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Meng and Senator Markey,

On behalf of the National Partnership for New Americans, the New York Immigration Coalition, the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, and the 118 undersigned organizations, we write in support of the National Office of New Americans Act. Our organizations commend your leadership in introducing this legislation, which would establish a National Office of New Americans in the Executive Office of the President to promote and support immigrant and refugee integration into, and inclusion in, the social, cultural, economic, and civic life of the United States.

The United States is home to nearly 50 million immigrants who contribute significantly to the prosperity and diversity of the nation, and it is deeply in our national interest to ensure that federal policies promote the inclusion and integration of newcomers. Establishment of a National Office of New Americans would help to bolster immigrant inclusion by creating a single point of coordination and collaboration between the many federal agencies involved in implementing policies that affect immigrants, and would help to formulate a national strategy for immigrant inclusion that would align with the parallel efforts of state and local governments across the country.

Offices of new Americans have already been established by an increasing number of state and local governments, whose efforts have demonstrated the significant benefits of these offices in coordinating cross-government policy that affects immigrants. In partnership with these state and local offices, the National Office of New Americans can help to fill the recent federal void in immigrant integration by launching and leading a coordinated nationwide strategy for effective inclusion policy. The Bureau of State and Local Affairs, which would be established within the National Office pursuant to this legislation, would help to ensure effective intergovernmental coordination on immigrant inclusion.

At a critical juncture in our nation's history, following four years during which the federal government abandoned its role in fostering the inclusion and integration of immigrants and refugees and weaponized its resources to alienate and exclude newcomers, the National Office of New Americans Act represents a new vision for our nation - one in which federal, state and

local governments work together to welcome and uplift immigrants and refugees. We commend your leadership in introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

National Partnership for New Americans

Member organizations of the National Partnership for New Americans endorsing:

Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Arkansas United
CASA
Causa Oregon
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)
Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition
Comunidades Unidas
El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos
Florida Immigrant Coalition
Global Cleveland
Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama
Junta for Progressive Action
Latin American Coalition
Maine People's Alliance
Make the Road
Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition
Michigan United
National Korean American Service & Education Consortium
Nebraska Appleseed
OneAmerica
Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
Promise Arizona
Somos Un Pueblo Unido
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition
The New York Immigration Coalition
The Resurrection Project
Texas Organizing Project
Voces de la Frontera
Unite Oregon
Greater Portland Welcome Center

Member organizations of the Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition endorsing:

BEST Hospitality Training
Brazilian Women's Group
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston

Center for New Americans
Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS)
Community Economic Development Center-New Bedford
Haitian Americans United Inc (HAUINC)
Health Law Advocates
Immigrant Family Services Institute (IFSI)
Immigration Legal Assistance Program - Ascentria Care Alliance
International Institute of New England
Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts
Jewish Vocational Service - Boston
Latinos Unidos en Massachusetts
Lowell Alliance
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
St Mark Community Education Program
Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice
The Literacy Center
The Resistance Center for Peace and Justice
The Right to Immigration Institute
True Alliance Center INC, (TAC)
Unitarian Universalist Massachusetts Action Network
United Way of Greater Plymouth County
Whittier Street Health Center

National and other organizations endorsing:

Academy of Medical & Public Health Services (AMPHS)
Adhikaar
African Communities Together
African Public Affairs Committee
African Services Committee
Alianza Americas
American Immigration Council
Anti-Defamation League
Asian American Federation
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)
Association of New Americans
AsylumWorks
Bridges Faith Initiative
Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC
Center for Victims of Torture
Chhaya CDC
Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC)
Church World Service
COMPASS - Community Partnerships for Settlement Strategies
Faith in New York
First Focus on Children

Freedom Network USA
Global Detroit
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network
Hispanic Federation
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
International Rescue Committee
Jewish Family Service of Buffalo and Erie County
Jews For Racial & Economic Justice
Kolot Chayeinu
Latin American Coalition
Liberia Medical Mission
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
Mobilization for Justice, Inc.
National CAPACD- National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development
National Immigration Law Center
National Skills Coalition
NETWORK Lobby
New American Economy
New York Justice for Our Neighbors, Inc.
Oxfam America
Padres Comprometidos / Acero Brighton Park
Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration
Refugees Helping Refugees
Saratoga Immigration Coalition
Sisters of St. Joseph, Brentwood NY Office of Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
UnidosUS
United Somali Alliance of Buffalo
United Stateless
United We Dream
University YMCA - New American Welcome Center
Upwardly Global
USAHello
We Are All America
Welcoming America
Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center
World Education Services
World Education, Inc.
YMCA of Greater New York