

February 15, 2019



Dear Members of Congress

We are Africa Faith and Justice Network, a Catholic membership organization representing 29 religious congregations and many more supporting members some of whom are your constituents, with a specific focus on advocacy and education for the transformation of United States policy toward Africa.

We are reaching out to you regarding the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) that was granted to the people fleeing civil war in South Sudan which is set to expire on May 2, 2019 unless extended by March 3, 2019. Under this status, the people of South Sudan residing in the United States were protected from deportation and were able to receive work authorization to provide for themselves, their families, and pay taxes. Unless the TPS is extended, the people of South Sudan residing in the United States will face deportation back to an unstable and violent country and the likelihood of being killed.

Similarly, Liberians who were initially allowed to live, work and pay taxes in the United States under the Temporary Protected Status and the Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) face deportation as well. Their DED status has been terminated and they face deportation by March 31, 2019. If the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act is not passed or their immigration status extended, these Liberians will lose the lives they have built in the US and possibly be separated from their families.

We ask that:

- You send an urgent letter to the Department of Homeland Security, asking that these protections for South Sudanese and Liberians be extended.
- If you have not done so already, co-sponsor the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act introduced to the Senate by Senator Jack Reed and Congressman David Cicilline.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

List of Organization Members

- Adorers of the Blood of Christ
- Archdiocese of Cincinnati Mission Office
- Comboni Missionaries
- Congregation of Holy Cross Sisters
- Congregation of the Holy Spirit
- Dominican Sisters of Peace
- Holy Cross Fathers
- Jesuits Conference for North America
- Marianist Province of the United States
- Maryknoll Society
- Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
- Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa
- Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit
- Missionhurst
- Xaverian Missionaries
- Priests of the Sacred Heart
- Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
- School Sisters of Notre Dame: Central Pacific Province
- Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
- Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
- Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus
- Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus & Mary
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
- Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

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