

February 8, 2022

Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
Hart Senate Office Building, 322
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer,

The undersigned organizations urge the Senate to ensure passage of the Build Back Better Act (BBB), including a pathway to citizenship.

As organizations who are committed to the wellbeing of children we support the groundbreaking investments in BBB that would help strengthen families, such as expansions to the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit as well as increased access to child care and pre-k, nutrition assistance, health care, and paid leave. We also believe that all children deserve a chance to thrive, and that starts with stability at home. Yet generation after generation of children have continued to face fear and other hardships that stem from a loved one's immigration status. Thus, it is also necessary to ensure that a pathway to citizenship is part of the bill.

You have the power and opportunity to transform the lives of millions of children in the U.S., including over five million children in mixed-status immigrant families. Now is the time to act.

Congress is ultimately responsible for delivering on its long overdue promise to pass a path to citizenship. Doing so will support the [healthy development and long-term success](#) of millions of children and youth. An [analysis](#) by the [Children Thrive Action Network](#) found that passing a pathway to citizenship can help lift more than a quarter-of-a-million children out of poverty. Combined with other important child-focused provisions, passage of BBB is a critical investment in our children's present and future.

The Senate has the power, today, to provide hope and prosperity for millions of children and their families. We urge you to do anything possible, including disregarding the parliamentarian's opinion, to pass this important bill with a pathway to citizenship.

Signed,

National Organizations

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
American Friends Service Committee

Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence
Center for Law and Social Policy
Center for the Study of Social Policy
Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.
Children's Defense Fund
Church World Service
Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries
Educare Learning Network
Faith in Public Life
First Focus Campaign for Children
Franciscan Action Network
InterReligious Task Force on Central America
Justice for Migrant Women
Justice Policy Institute
MomsRising
National Association of Social Workers
National Crittenton
National Education Association
National Juvenile Justice Network
Partnership for America's Children
Prevention Institute
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team
South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT)
Start Early
United Parent Leaders Action Network (UPLAN)
United Stateless
Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights

State and Local Organizations

Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Arts for Healing and Justice Network (CA)
Californians Together
CHILDREN AT RISK (TX)
Clayton Early Learning (CO)
Colorado Children's Campaign
Congress of Communities (MI)
Connecticut Justice Alliance
Dominican Sisters of Houston
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill (NY)

Every Texan
FACES SF (CA)
Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Florida Policy Institute
Hispanic Services Council, Inc.(FL)
Hispanic Unity of Florida
Human Rights Initiative of North Texas
Immigrant Resource Center (FL)
Kingsley House (LA)
Latino Policy Forum (IL)
Lawrence CommunityWorks (MA)
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition
MCCOY (Marion County Commission on Youth, Inc.) (IN)
Mexican American Unity Council, Inc. (TX)
Michigan Center for Youth Justice
Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
MISTudentsDream
Neighborhood House (WA)
New Jersey Parents Caucus
Our Children Oregon
Parent Voices CA
PASOs (SC)
Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants (IL)
The Children's Partnership (CA)
Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Voices for Utah Children
Voices for Vermont's Children
Washington State Association of Head Start And ECEAP
Washington State Parent Ambassadors
Westchester Jewish Coalition for Immigration (WJCI) (NY)
Workers Center of Central NY

February 8, 2022

Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Honorable Kamala D. Harris
Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden and Vice President Harris,

The undersigned organizations urge the Biden-Harris Administration to work with Congress to ensure passage of the Build Back Better Act (BBB), including a pathway to citizenship.

As organizations who are committed to the wellbeing of children, we support the groundbreaking investments in BBB that would help strengthen families, such as expansions to the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit as well as increased access to child care and pre-k, nutrition assistance, health care, and paid leave. We also believe that all children deserve a chance to thrive, and that starts with stability at home. Yet generation after generation of children have continued to face fear and other hardships that stem from a loved one's immigration status. Thus, it is also necessary to ensure that a pathway to citizenship is part of the bill.

You have the power and opportunity to transform the lives of millions of children in the U.S., including over five million children in mixed-status immigrant families. Now is the time to act.

It is long past time that our federal government delivers on the promise made to deliver a path to citizenship for immigrants who need it. Specifically, Vice President Harris can work with the Senate to disregard the parliamentarian's opinion, and ensure such a provision is included in the Build Back Better Act. Doing so will support the [healthy development and long-term success](#) of millions of children and youth. An [analysis](#) by the [Children Thrive Action Network](#) found that passing a pathway to citizenship can help lift more than a quarter-of-a-million children out of poverty. Combined with other important child-focused provisions, passage of BBB is a critical investment in our children's present and future.

With your support, the Senate has the power, today, to provide hope and prosperity for millions of children and their families and pass this important bill with a pathway to citizenship.

Signed,

National Organizations

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Center for the Study of Social Policy
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Our Children Oregon
Parent Voices CA
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