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MAURA T. HEALEY  
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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 30, 2026

The Honorable Kristi Noem, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Noem,

I am writing to urgently demand that the Department of Homeland Security extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian nationals currently living and working in the United States. This decision is critically important to Massachusetts, where Haitian TPS holders are deeply woven into our communities, economy, and healthcare system.

Massachusetts is home to one of the largest Haitian populations in the nation, including more than 45,000 Haitian TPS holders. Many have lived and worked in Massachusetts for well over a decade since before DHS first designated Haiti for TPS protection in 2010. Haitian TPS holders are essential contributors to our state's workforce, filling roles that are vital to our economic stability and growth. Across industries—from healthcare and long-term care to transportation, hospitality, and construction—these workers help keep our economy running. The sudden loss of their legal status and work authorization would be devastating for our state.

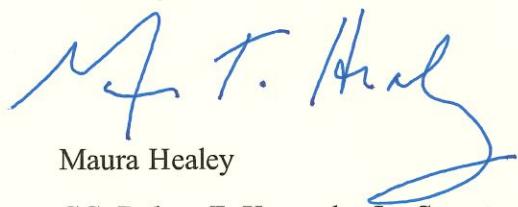
In healthcare in particular, Haitian TPS holders play an indispensable role in providing essential services. They care for our most vulnerable residents, serving as nurses, home health aides, certified nursing assistants, technicians, and support staff in hospitals, community health centers, nursing homes, and home-based care settings. At a time when Massachusetts, like much of the nation, faces persistent workforce shortages, these professionals are helping us meet the needs of patients, seniors, and people with disabilities. Stripping TPS holders of their ability to work would significantly worsen staffing shortages, increase health care costs, reduce access to care, and place additional strain on an already stressed healthcare system.

TPS holders contribute significantly as taxpayers and consumers. TPS-eligible Haitians contribute \$4.4 billion annually to the U.S. economy. They pay taxes, contribute to Social Security and Medicare, and spend their earnings in local businesses, strengthening our communities. Many are homeowners, parents of U.S.-citizen children, and long-term residents who have built their lives here and are committed to the future of our state.

The conditions in Haiti that justified the original TPS designation—including political instability, widespread violence, humanitarian crises, and limited access to basic services—remain severe. Forcing individuals to return under these circumstances would be unsafe and would undermine the stability of families and communities here in Massachusetts.

Extending Haitian TPS is not only a humanitarian imperative; it is an economic and public health necessity. I urge the Department to extend TPS for Haitian nationals immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. T. Healey".

Maura Healey

CC: Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Secretary of Health and Human Services