



April 13, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Minority Leader Jeffries,

The National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA) supports H.R. 1689, the Haiti TPS Extension Act, bipartisan legislation to direct the Department of Homeland Security to extend Temporary Protected Status for Haiti. Haitians working legally in the U.S. under TPS have been employed within our member companies for many years, and this legislation would be a positive short-term solution to allow these hard-working individuals to continue contributing to their companies and communities. We urge lawmakers to approve this legislation as an interim step toward broader immigration reform that addresses both security and workforce needs.

Established in 1886, NRCA is one of the nation's oldest trade associations and the voice of roofing professionals worldwide. Our 4,000 member companies represent all segments of the industry, including contractors, manufacturers, distributors, and other employers in all 50 states. NRCA members are typically small, privately held companies employing 45 people on average. The roofing industry is an essential \$100 billion sector with nearly one million employees that provides critical materials and services to ensure home and business safety.

A chronic shortage of qualified workers is the most significant limitation on the ability of NRCA members to grow their businesses. Most contractors indicate they could be doing 10% to 20% or even more work if they could fill vacant positions, which translates to at least \$9.5 to \$19 billion in lost economic activity annually. Workforce shortages are expected to become even more acute in the future due to an aging workforce and other demographic trends. This situation persists despite the well-paying, family-sustaining jobs offered in our industry (the mean hourly wage for roof system installers was \$26.85 in 2024 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

NRCA recognizes concerns exist regarding the operation and evolution of the TPS program since it was established by Congress in 1990 to provide humanitarian relief for people from countries experiencing natural disasters, wars and other dangerous conditions. There is a legitimate concern that TPS should not become a de facto workforce program. However, we must recognize the valuable contributions of the many individuals who have worked *legally* within roofing and other industries for many years under TPS, including many who have achieved positions of leadership within our member companies. These individuals should not be penalized for the inability of Congress to address immigration reform or due to implementation issues over successive administrations.

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It is estimated that, at the beginning of 2025, there were over 50,000 individuals working legally within the construction industry under TPS. Ending TPS for Haiti has impacted thousands of individuals and exacerbated ongoing workforce shortages facing NRCA member companies.

With the recent Discharge Petition by Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) signed by 218 bipartisan lawmakers, NRCA urges the House to approve H.R. 1689 when it is brought to the floor for a vote. The bill would extend the TPS designation for Haiti until early 2029, allowing Haitians with TPS to continue working legally in our industry and contributing to their communities. This will provide certainty to affected individuals and employers while Congress considers broader immigration-related reforms.

NRCA has supported numerous proposals to allow long-term legal immigrants working under TPS to transition to permanent legal status if they meet certain qualifications. This includes the Dignity Act (H.R. 4393), a bipartisan bill to permanently secure the border and modernize key components of our horribly outdated immigration system. This bill would ensure that recent funding provided for enhanced border security is used effectively to provide more physical barriers, tactical infrastructure technology and expanded personnel at U.S. borders. It would eliminate illegal immigration by phasing in the E-Verify program for all employers over a multi-year period. It also establishes the Dignity Program to provide the opportunity for individuals with TPS to earn permanent lawful status through work experience, paying restitution, passing a background check and other requirements.

Additionally, Congress should approve the Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act (H.R. 5494), bipartisan legislation to reform the visa system for workers in occupations that perform year-round, non-farm work that does not require a college degree. The bill establishes a two-track system that matches willing employers with temporary workers to meet the urgent workforce needs of our 21st century economy. H.R. 5494 contains numerous provisions to protect American workers, is efficient for employers to use, and will enable job creators to obtain the workers needed to sustain and grow their businesses.

NRCA would prefer that Congress approve H.R. 4393 and H.R. 5494 to fully deal with border security and workforce-related immigration issues. Given the lack of Congressional action on these bills to date, lawmakers should approve H.R. 1689 as a short-term solution for Haitians now working legally under TPS.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this important issue. For more information, please contact Duane Musser in NRCA's Washington, DC, office at 202-546-7584 or dmusser@nrca.net.

Sincerely,



McKay Daniels
Chief Executive Officer