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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3217

February 3, 2026

To the Haitian Community of New York,

During my time as your congressman, I've engaged directly with the Haitian diaspora here in our district, often attending community events to which I and my office have been graciously invited and meeting with high-level Haitian officials in Washington, D.C.

From day one, I've stood with New York's Haitian community and consistently pressed the Administration to extend Temporary Protected Status for Haiti. Haitian TPS holders are essential to our healthcare system, our transit workforce, and our small businesses across the Hudson Valley. While a recent federal court's decision provides temporary relief, my advocacy will continue until there is a durable, humane solution that reflects the realities on the ground in Haiti and the indispensable role this community plays here in New York. This will ultimately support Haiti's move toward stability and free, fair democratic elections.

I've written multiple letters in an official capacity to the Administration to extend TPS for Haiti. I've spoken with President Trump, Secretary Noem, and Secretary Rubio, both in meetings and on phone calls. I have been a vocal advocate on other issues impacting Haiti to benefit both the people and the nation. This includes leading the charge to reauthorize the HOPE/HELP preferential trade program to strengthen and uplift Haiti's economy, authorizing the creation of an Office of Haitian Affairs at the State Department to prioritize the humanitarian and political crisis in U.S. diplomacy.

Working with Haitian constituents and local employers to help pursue asylum or other lawful pathways to remain and work in the United States, I've met repeatedly with community leaders to ensure their concerns are reflected in my advocacy. At the local level, I led Rockland County officials in a unified letter urging an extension of TPS, recognizing the serious economic and humanitarian consequences of inaction.

I will continue urging the Trump Administration to support the Haitian people and our New York communities that rely on their contributions.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress

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