



# LIUNA!

November 21, 2017

TERRY O'SULLIVAN  
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SERGIO RASCON

ROBERT F. ABBOTT

SAMUEL STATEN, JR.

PAUL V. HOGROGIAN

THEODORE T. GREEN  
*General Counsel*

HEADQUARTERS:  
905 16th Street, NW  
Washington, DC  
20006-1765  
202-737-8320  
Fax: 202-737-2754  
www.liuna.org

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senate  
110 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Cardin  
United States Senate  
509 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Van Hollen, Senator Cardin and Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the 500,000 men and women of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), a union built by and for immigrants, I write to endorse your legislation to protect recipients of the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program. S. 2144, the Safe Environment from Countries Under Repression and in Emergency Act (SECURE), would allow these valued members of our union to remain in our country by protecting them from deportation to their still-unstable countries of origin.

S. 2144 would protect workers from all TPS designated nations, and their immediate family members, who have had a continuous presence in the U.S. for the past three years, and give them a path to legal permanent resident status as well as eventual naturalization. LIUNA also supports the bill's important and necessary inclusion of oversight by requiring a justification to Congress by the Department of Homeland Security of a change in a nation's TPS designation.

Hundreds of thousands of union members have lived and worked in our country for years under TPS, paying taxes while supporting their families. These workers build America every day, and at the same time, build the U.S. economy. Ending TPS for countries including Haiti, El Salvador, and Honduras in particular would have a significantly negative effect on the construction industry. Over twenty percent of TPS recipients work in the construction industry, most from these three nations. In addition to the devastating impact on these workers and their families, termination

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of the TPS program would lead to an estimated \$45 billion reduction in GDP, an immediate \$6.9 billion reduction in tax contributions, and nearly \$1 billion in employer costs. For these reasons, LIUNA supports your bill to protect recipients of the TPS program.

The construction industry needs to retain workers covered by the TPS program to continue to build America. S. 2144 is needed to protect our union members, and our union is proud to endorse your bill.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry O'Sullivan".

TERRY O'SULLIVAN  
General President

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