



LIUNA!

June 17, 2016

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President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write to respectfully request that the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in consultation with the Secretary of State, grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Ecuadorians residing in the United States. This request is made in response to the magnitude-7.8 earthquake that devastated Ecuador on April 16, 2016.

Ecuador needs assistance to recover from this historic natural disaster. It is a massive undertaking, and reconstruction efforts will cost billions of dollars. Temporary protected status for Ecuadorians here in the U.S. would protect them from deportation while they work to contribute to the recovery effort.

This earthquake has been considered the worst natural disaster to strike Ecuador in seventy years. As of May 19, official reports indicate that the devastating earthquake took the lives of 663 people, left 6,274 injured, displaced approximately 73,000, and left a daunting 720,000 people in need of humanitarian assistance. UNICEF reports that at least 250,000 children have been affected. The bulk of the destruction occurred in the coastal provinces of Manabí and Esmeraldas, but USAID's reports label a total of six provinces as severely affected. The country's infrastructure has seen widespread damage, including the destruction of its water systems and approximately 560 schools and 10,000 buildings.

Ecuador has received an outpouring of support from across the world, including generous contributions from the United States. However, the road to recovery is long, and temporary protected status for Ecuadorians in the U.S. would do much to aid the process. TPS would allow the Ecuadorian government to better focus its efforts on providing relief to the victims of the earthquake and investing in infrastructure repair.

Ecuador's circumstances fall squarely within the criteria for granting TPS, as was seen in the aftermath of similar natural disasters in Haiti and Nepal. The Ecuadorian Ministry of Foreign Relations and Human Mobility submitted a formal request on May 18, 2016. We urge you to

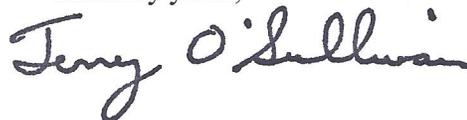
Feel the Power

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extend TPS to Ecuadorians in the United States so that they can join their home country's recovery effort. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

TERRY O'SULLIVAN
General President

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cc: Mr. Jeh Johnson, Secretary of Homeland Security
Mr. John Kerry, Secretary of State
Ms. Susan Rice, National Security Advisor
Ms. Cecilia Muñoz, Domestic Policy Advisor
Mr. Leon Rodriguez, Director of USCIS