

Immigration Priorities: 118th Congress

Comprehensive Immigration Reform:

- The UUSJ Immigration Action Team's big hairy audacious goal (BHAG) is **comprehensive immigration reform**. That is our North Star, our overarching priority, the goal that keeps us active.
- We seek to support the long-term goal of updating America's dysfunctional and unfair immigration system with new laws, policies, and procedures that provide just, fair, and humane treatment of immigrants who are seeking to enter the U.S.
- In service to this primary goal, our team will focus on several essential priorities that address specific problems or aid individual groups of immigrants.

Supporting Priorities:

- **Restoring a fair, efficient, and humane asylum process**, including discontinuing the use of Title 42 and the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP); strengthening Executive and Congressional oversight of immigration agencies.
- **Ending the detention of immigrants** who pose no threat to national security or public safety and using the savings to fund community-based case management; also, putting an end to the use of private-sector detention facilities.
- **Providing pathways to permanent residency** for specific migrant groups such as DACA recipients (Dreamers), Afghan evacuees, farm workers, other essential workers, immigrants with Temporary Protected Status.
- **Improving welcoming services and increasing funding for refugee processing and resettlement**, so the U.S. can honor its fair share commitments and receive people with dignity.
- **Achieving timely processing of immigrant applications**, increasing funding and personnel for U.S. Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) to permit fair and humane case management.
- **Reforming immigration courts** to make them independent; increasing funding for judges and staff to reduce the huge backlog of cases and to permit timely resolution of new cases.

Grounding:

- We will actively seek guidance from those most affected by immigration rules, regulations, laws, and actions: impacted communities.
- We will assess our partnerships and collaborations, striving to ensure they include a diverse cross-section of immigrants and professionals in the relevant fields.
- We will act in ways consistent with our UU principles, as well as UUSJ's mission, vision, and organizational values – our team's commitment to UUSJ's moral owners.