

Victories

We are proud of our work; our contribution to outcomes seen since December 2020

I: The Biden Administration's slew of early actions, and planned actions, on issues we have supported as part of coalitions and campaigns or in our direct engagement.

- **Climate Rollback Executive Order (EO) (including Keystone XL Pipeline):** Revokes or directs review of permits
- **Sign instrument to rejoin the Paris Agreement;** to take effect 30 days later
- **Repeal Muslim Ban:** rescinds Muslim Ban, directing State Department to restart visas
- **Border Wall Proclamation:** Terminates national emergency and halts obligation of funds
- **Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for Liberians:** Reinstate DED
- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)(the Dreamers):** Directs DHS and DOJ to take all actions they deem appropriate to preserve and fortify
- **Census:** Rescinds Trump EO and PM on excluding undocumented non-citizens from the census
- **Rescind Trump EO on Immigration Enforcement,** clearing the way for a review of immigration enforcement and pause of most removals
- **Sent an immigration bill to Congress proposing pathways to citizenship for 11 million immigrants** including DACA, Temporary Protected Status holders and farm workers
- **Economic Relief EO:** Directs action on Medicaid; Pell grants; SNAP; and unemployment insurance

II: Legislative Victories: The flurry of legislation that Congress was forced to pass in late December broke the logjam and included many things that UUSJ had asked for in **Write Here! Write Now!** campaigns and advocated for in meetings with Congressional staff. In December three major bills were passed:

- An Omnibus agency appropriations bill, funding many federal agencies in order to avoid a Government shutdown. This was signed by President Trump
- A COVID-19 relief bill, signed by the President Trump
- The Defense Authorization Act (DAA) that instructed the Defense Department to do certain things, including renaming bases that honored Confederate generals. This was vetoed by President Trump and Congress overrode the veto.

List of Legislative Victories

- October 2020: UUSJ urged additional funding for EPA's Office of Environmental Justice, and for grants to impacted communities suffering from environmental damage. These were included in the Omnibus bill.
- September 2020: UUSJ urged that the next COVID relief bill not exclude immigrant families from benefits. While this complete coverage was not included in the COVID-19 relief bill, those US citizens who were part of families that included an undocumented person were finally included and this was made retroactive.
- September 2020: UUSJ urged better oversight of ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement), and reduced funding for that agency. The Omnibus bill reduced ICE funding.
- July 2020: UUSJ urged Congress to ban the Defense Department from giving combat equipment to police forces. Armored vehicles, bayonets, and ultra-lethal weapons are not useful in the hands of police and are dangerous to citizens. This was included in the DAA.
- May 2020: UUSJ urged support for a bill to phase out hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigeration gases, which are powerful greenhouse gases. That bill was incorporated in the Omnibus bill.
- March 2020: UUSJ urged passage of the bill providing TPS holders pathways to citizenship. The broad immigration bill sent to Congress by President Biden included that.
- December 2019: UUSJ urged extensions to the tax credits for clean energy generation, including wind and solar energy. These were included in the Omnibus bill, along with a new credit for offshore wind.
- December 2018: UUSJ advocated for additional training funds for prisoners to increase their employability after release. The Omnibus bill made prisoners eligible for Pell grants, which will make it possible for prisoners to pursue college courses and degrees in prison.
- Multiple months in 2018: UUSJ advocated to protect SNAP and increase funding for SNAP (food stamp program). SNAP benefits were increased by 15% for six months in the COVID-19 relief bill.