

# ENSURE NEW AMERICANS THRIVE: COSPONSOR THE “NEW DEAL FOR NEW AMERICANS ACT”

Deadline for Originals: COB Tuesday, October 29th

*Endorsed by 64 entities: National Partnership for New Americans; New York Immigration Coalition; Make the Road NY; Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice; Arkansas United Community Coalition; CASA; Causa; Center for Popular Democracy (CPD); Coalition for Human Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA); Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC); Comunidades Unidas; Florida Immigrant Rights Coalition (FLIC); Global Cleveland; Greater Portland Immigrant Welcome Center; Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama (HICA); Junta for Progressive Action; Latin American Coalition; Maine People’s Alliance; Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA); Michigan United; National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC); Nebraska Appleseed; OneAmerica; Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition; Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada; Promise Arizona; Somos Un Pueblo Unido; Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC); The Resurrection Project; Voces de la Frontera; Center for Community Change; Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas (COFEM); Colorado People’s Alliance (COPA); El Centro de Igualdad y Derechos; Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights (GLAHR); Idaho Community Action Network (ICAN); Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR); Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (ICCI); Montana Organizing Project (MOP); Movement of Immigrants in America (MIA); New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrant Rights (NHAIR-MIRA); People’s Action; Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN); Services, Immigrant Rights, and Education Network (SIREN); Sunflower Community Action; Unite Oregon; WashingtonCan!; Workers Defense Project; Treetops Collective; Global Detroit; Rural Women’s Health Project; Mobile Pathways; River City Federal Credit Union; Justice for Our Neighbors – Michigan; Academy of Medical & Public Health Services; Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese; Healthy Illinois Campaign; Crosswas Consulting; Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, City of Albuquerque; The Legal Clinic; City of Portland, Maine; Campaign-Urbana Public Health District; Homies Unidos; International Council for Refugees and Immigrants; City of Houston, Texas*

Dear Colleague:

The United States is a nation of immigrants. Our nation can only be made stronger if we assist the efforts of new Americans to integrate, contribute to the growth of our economy, and be civically engaged.

To ensure a more inclusive and welcoming system to help new Americans achieve their American Dream, I will be introducing the New Deal for New Americans Act. Among many provisions, this bill would help immigrants and refugees overcome common challenges such as language barriers and employment attainment, and help break down barriers to naturalization.

Specifically, the **New Deal for New Americans Act** would:

- Establish a **National Office of New Americans** in the Executive Office of the White House to promote and support immigrant and refugee integration and inclusion and coordinate efforts of federal, state, and local governments to support social, economic, and civic integration of immigrants and refugees.

- Establish a **Federal Initiative on New Americans** to coordinate federal response to address issues that affect the lives of new immigrants and refugees and communities with growing immigrant and refugee populations.
- Create a **Legal Services and Immigration Assistance Grant Program** to support organizations that provide direct immigration assistance to those in need of immigration screening; know-your-rights education; assistance in applying for citizenship, lawful permanent resident status or other legal status (DACA, TPS, asylum, etc.); or seeking relief from a removal order.
- Create an **English as a Gateway to Integration Program** for organizations that teach English or help individuals prepare for naturalization or earn a GED.
- Create a **Workforce Development Grant Program** to ensure that immigrant and refugee adults have equitable access to education and workforce programs that help equip them with occupational skills needed to secure or advance in employment.
- **Reduce barriers for individuals to naturalize** by establishing a flat application fee for naturalization, amending the English and civics exam requirements for older individuals, and exempting eligible U.S. high school graduates from taking the naturalization exams.
- **Limit USCIS's ability to raise fees** without Congress' approval, plus **require authorization of appropriations** to cover USCIS' need to operate and adjudicate cases.
- Promote civic engagement through **automatic voter registration of newly naturalized individuals**.
- Expand family integration by reducing the age of citizens who are able to petition eligible family members from 21 years old to 18 years old.
- Increase **Refugee Admissions level to 110,000** per fiscal year.
- Provide social, economic, and civic support to refugees and rebuild the capacity and infrastructure of local communities to welcome refugees.
- Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to no longer allow deportation of an individual deemed to have become a public charge.

Please join me in moving our diverse nation forward by helping new immigrants.

To be an original cosponsor or for questions, please contact Jacqueline Hsieh of Rep. Meng's staff at [jacqueline.hsieh@mail.house.gov](mailto:jacqueline.hsieh@mail.house.gov) or (202) 225-2601.

Sincerely,

Rep. Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

Rep. Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

Rep. Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress