



Please read this message from the Office of Social Ministry and give prayerful consideration to the simple action requested. **Thank you.**

The **Catholic Diocese of Richmond Social Justice Advocacy Network** has been formed to advocate for policy recommendations of the **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops** (USCCB) that highlight Catholic Social Teaching. This month you are encouraged to write an email and/or letter to your congressional representative that advocates for continuing **Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haiti**. Bill, HR1689, has narrowly passed the United States House of Representatives, and is pending a vote in the Senate, S 4814, which would continue to allow TPS for the over 300,000 Haitians that currently receive it. With the U.S. State Department maintaining a strict “Do Not Travel” advisory for Haiti, it is inhumane to end TPS for the Haitians currently receiving it and requires them to return to the ongoing gang crisis in Haiti. The **USCCB** resource guide is an excellent resource on TPS for Haiti.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/Haiti%20TPS%20Update.pdf>

At St. Paul's, four beloved members of our parish ~ a husband and wife, and two sisters ~ are here in Richmond from Haiti on TPS due to these exact circumstances. Please keep them in your prayers and consider this plea from the Office of Social Ministries to reach out to your representative. Instructions on contacting your representative follow below.

This letter writing campaign is directed toward the U.S. House representatives as many of the Virginia House delegation voted against the TPS legislation (HR 1689). If TPS for Haiti were to pass the Senate then it might likely be vetoed by President Trump, requiring a House vote to overturn the possible veto. The preference is to have all of the Virginia U.S. House representatives support for the TPS for Haiti should a vote to overturn a veto be required.

Please consider emailing or sending a letter to your U.S House representative by going to the following link (www.house.gov) and entering your zip code, then to the representative's website and selecting “Contact” where you will complete a form that sends an email to the representative asking them to support TPS for Haiti. **Thank you!**

