

URGENT:

CALL YOUR STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AND URGE THEM TO DEFEND REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT!

In September, the White House issued [Executive Order 13888 \(EO\) “On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement”](#) which could allow state and local jurisdictions to deny refugees to be resettled in their communities, despite having been approved for resettlement to the United States, and having an already existing community of support in that state or locality.

This order could radically reduce, if not entirely stop, the resettlement of refugees in local communities across the country, and create chaos and confusion about if and where refugees can be resettled in the United States.

In addition to the EO, the administration [proposed a refugee admissions goal](#) of 18,000 refugees to be accepted for resettlement to the U.S. for Fiscal Year 2020, which began on October 1, 2019. The new policy isn't just a bureaucratic issue — it ends the longstanding U.S. role as the worldwide leader in welcoming people fleeing violence at a time when the number of refugees is at its highest level since World War II.

The EO could leave thousands of refugees, former refugees, and U.S. citizens without access to the services they need. It also subjects the safety and security of families and community members to the whims of politics.

These actions could destroy the [bipartisan refugee](#) resettlement program for years to come. It's critical that we demonstrate [nationwide, bi-partisan support for refugees](#) now and ensure our state and local officials publicly declare welcome for refugees.

Use the script below and make your voice is heard. Reach out to your governors, mayors, and county officials and ask them to support welcoming refugees in your community.

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YOUR STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Use this link to find your governor and make your voice heard:
<https://www.nga.org/governors/addresses>

MESSAGE

- Hello, my name is [NAME] and I live in [city, state].
- I'm gravely concerned about the executive order President Trump issued in September, which could mean refugees are banned from being resettled in our community.
- It is incumbent on [TITLE OF OFFICIAL and LAST NAME OF OFFICIAL] to represent their constituents' and community's support for refugees and to be a champion in support of refugee resettlement in a concerted national defense against the Trump administration's dismantling of the refugee program which will have massive domestic and international implications.
- I urge [TITLE OF OFFICIAL and LAST NAME OF OFFICIAL] to publicly declare that they welcome refugees in (your city/state) and provide the necessary written consent to the federal government stating that refugees are welcome.
- Insert your support for refugee resettlement using your own words)

ADDITIONAL MESSAGES TO USE

- The vast majority of people in this country support welcoming refugees. This summer, nearly 400 state and local elected officials from 46 states [signed a bipartisan letter](#) in support of refugee resettlement in their communities.
- I urge (TITLE OF OFFICIAL and LAST NAME OF OFFICIAL) to sign onto this letter as it remains open for additional signatures. They can sign on by visiting welcomingrefugees2020.org.
- Amnesty International members have passed over 60 resolutions in almost 30 states in support of refugee resettlement in their elected bodies.
- This executive order will create a climate of fear around the country, and violate one of our country's most cherished principles: freedom of movement.

SUGGESTED TWEET

URGENT@realdonaldtrump issued an executive order that could stop refugees from coming to my community. I have called (elected official's twitter handle) and urged them to #WelcomeRefugees

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