



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

January 24, 2025

The Honorable Benjamine Huffman
Acting Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Acting Secretary Huffman,

I am writing in response to the January 23, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement memo titled “Guidance Regarding How to Exercise Enforcement Discretion.”

I am concerned with how this new guidance may affect individuals in Miami. As you know, on Monday, January 20, President Trump ended the program formerly known as the “Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans (CHNV).” Following up on this, yesterday’s guidance expands expedited removal against these populations. Since many of these individuals currently reside in Miami, there are open questions on how exactly this will be implemented.

Individuals must be afforded due process. I strongly urge you to ensure that all Cubans paroled in under the CHNV program eligible for or with pending applications for the Cuban Adjustment Act are protected from deportation until their cases are fully resolved. Additionally, Venezuelans, Nicaraguans, and Haitians who arrived under the CHNV program, have no criminal record, and have applied for asylum through the proper legal channels, should also be protected until their cases are fully resolved.

Although President Biden originally created this new program on dubious legal grounds and brought individuals here without a plan for their future, they were still enrolled under programs offered to them. Therefore, I believe they should have the ability to see their applications out to rectify their legal status. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria Elvira Salazar".

Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress