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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 10, 2023

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20528

RECEIVED

By ESEC at 11:40 am, Mar 10, 2023

Dear Secretary Mayorkas,

I write to urgently request your assistance in ensuring that Ukrainians who fled the war can remain in the American communities where they have settled. Wisconsin has been proud to welcome those fleeing the war and to help them rebuild their lives here. Unfortunately, thousands of Ukrainians are currently at risk of being uprooted once again due to an eligibility gap in the types of legal status available to them.

As you know, President Biden announced the Uniting for Ukraine initiative on April 21, 2022, which has allowed Ukrainians displaced by Russia's brutal and unprovoked invasion to seek parole in the United States for up to two years. Additionally, Ukrainians who arrived prior to April 11, 2022 are eligible for Temporary Protected Status through October 19, 2023. I commend you for your work in implementing these programs to safely resettle covered individuals in their new homes. However, those who arrived in the intervening 10 days are at risk of losing legal status in a matter of weeks absent action by the administration. I urge you to take immediate action to address this gap and provide legal status and much-needed certainty to the thousands of Ukrainians impacted by this situation.

Wisconsin's 2nd Congressional District is home to several Ukrainian families who are at risk of removal due to this gap in coverage. The Wisconsinites in my district who have come to know these families, including several local elected leaders, have told me how they have enriched their new communities as neighbors, friends, colleagues, classmates, and teammates. These families deserve a clear path forward to ensure their safety, and my constituents deserve to know that their new neighbors will not be sent back to a warzone.

I urge you once again to act swiftly to ensure that the Ukrainians who have found safety here in the United States are not uprooted in the coming weeks. If I may be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office. Thank you for your immediate attention to this timely matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Pocan', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

April 3, 2023

The Honorable Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pocan:

Thank you for your March 10, 2023 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I am responding on behalf of the Secretary and the Department.

We are addressing concerns about Ukrainians who arrived and received parole prior to the launch of the Uniting for Ukraine process. As of March 13, 2023, individuals paroled into the United States at a port of entry between February 24, 2022, and April 25, 2022, will be considered by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, on a case-by-case basis, for a one-year extension of their parole, to align with the two-year parole period granted under Uniting for Ukraine. For those granted the extension DHS will review cases chronologically based on the date of parole and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) will extend work authorization and issue an official Notice of Action (labelled "Form I-797C") to demonstrate that work authorization has been extended. It is important that individuals have their correct mailing address listed in their existing USCIS online accounts (<https://myaccount.uscis.gov/>) to ensure they receive this Notice of Action if approved.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine> in the sections labeled "Information for Ukrainians Paroled before Uniting for Ukraine" and "Extension for Certain Ukrainians Paroled into the United States Following Russia's Invasion."

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. I also want to thank all those in Wisconsin's 2nd District who opened their doors to Ukrainian families fleeing the ongoing conflict in their country. Should you require any additional assistance, please have your staff contact the USCIS Office of Legislative Affairs at (240) 721-3801.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ur M. Jaddou", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ur M. Jaddou
Director