IMMIGRATION POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

HEROES ACT CONTAINS IMMIGRATION MEASURES

On Tuesday, House Democrats revealed the latest COVID-19 relief package proposal. This legislation allows people that file taxes using an ITIN to receive stimulus checks. It also calls for the release of immigrant detainees that are at risk of infection, offers temporary protection from deportation to essential workers, and expedites the visa process for healthcare workers.

15.4 million people in mixed-status families were excluded from economic relief through the CARES Act

SUSPENSION OF ENTRY FOR CERTAIN IMMIGRANTS

President Trump issued a proclamation on April 22nd suspending certain immigrants from entering the United States for an initial period of 60 days. This proclamation will mainly impact family reunification as it applies to those seeking permanent residency from outside of the U.S.



COVID-19 IN IMMIGRATION DETENTION

Nearly 900 immigrants held in detention have tested positive for COVID-19, including 17 people detained in Pulaski County Detention Center in Illinois. This number is especially alarming given that only 1.736 tests have been administered.

IMMIGRATION PROCESSES DURING THE PANDEMIC

Non-essential travel along the southern border remains restricted. Migrants that do not have proper documentation, including asylum seekers, are immediately turned away. In addition, immigration court hearings for migrants in the Remain in Mexico program are postponed through June 19th. While most immigration processes have been halted, deportations continue.

STATE

BARRIERS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The Higher Education Budget passed with language prohibiting public colleges and universities from offering in-state tuition or scholarships to undocumented students.

END OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION

One piece of good news out of the Missouri Legislature is that no other destructive immigration bills made it to the calendar. Legislative session will end on Friday.

