

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

January 11, 2011

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to you to request that you parole into the United States Haitians whose Category F immigration petitions had been approved as of January 12, 2010, so that they may be united with their families.

One year after the earthquake that devastated the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince, over a million displaced people still live in tent camps, substantive reconstruction has yet to begin, civil strife and unrest pervade the populace following recent general elections and a cholera epidemic threatens the health and well-being of people in Haiti.

Among those dealing with this devastation are approximately 35,000 Haitians with relatives in the United States whose immigration petitions have already been approved by the U.S. government. These include spouses and minor children of U.S. permanent residents, adult children of U.S. citizens and permanent residents, and married children and spouses, and their families. Due to visa backlogs, these family members whose petitions have been granted in some cases could be waiting for up to 11 years to enter the United States.

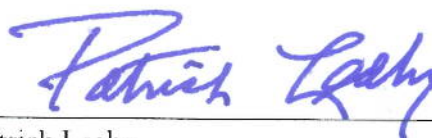
Paroling these persons into the United States would allow individuals with approved applications to join their families immediately. They would be allowed to work in the U.S. while awaiting their turn in line, but receive no federal benefits, thereby not impacting the federal budget. Thus, these persons would be able to leave the devastation of Haiti, work in the United States and send back remittances that will aid Haiti's recovery, while awaiting their visas.

Haitian family members of U.S. citizens remain at serious risk when they could be in the United States working productively for both our economy and Haiti's. Thus we respectfully request that your administration support the reunification of U.S. citizens and their Haitian family members.

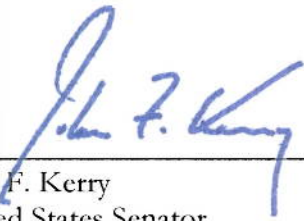
Sincerely,



Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator



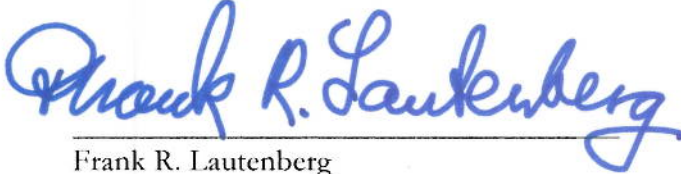
Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



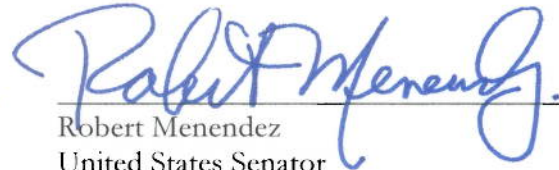
John F. Kerry
United States Senator



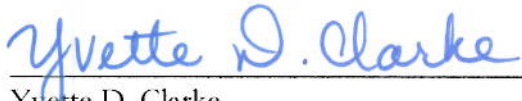
Bill Nelson
United States Senator



Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress