



For Immediate Release:

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STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:

Latino Leaders Call for Compassion and Work Permits for All, Following Biden's Executive Order Closing the Border to Asylum Seekers

media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to [President Biden's executive order to seal the border to asylum seekers](#):

"We have advocated for a federal response to the humanitarian crisis at the Southern border and are disheartened by President's Biden executive order to close it to asylum seekers—a decision that we expect will be implemented almost immediately and which will be challenged in court by the ACLU as a violation of international human rights law.

"While we continue to call for compassionate and humane treatment for those seeking asylum, we fear that by closing this legal channel, migrants will have nowhere to go and will fall prey to extortion and kidnapping, escalating human trafficking. We urge the Biden Administration to adopt proactive foreign policies with Mexico and other Latin American countries to address the root causes of the migrant crisis and re-stabilize the region as a national security priority.

"We encourage the Biden administration to keep pushing for comprehensive immigration reform, clear pathways for citizenship, and fix asylum laws. It is critical that he takes executive action now to provide work permits for long term immigrants."

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The Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA) is a coalition that advocates for the representation of Latinos across all sectors and works to advance the economic, political and social prosperity of Latino communities throughout Illinois.