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119th Congress

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April 9, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We, members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, write to express our deep concern and unequivocal dismay about recent reports of the wrongful deportation of Mr. Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia.¹ As a Maryland resident with protected legal status, Mr. Abrego Garcia was deported to El Salvador on March 15, 2025, due to an “administrative error.” Because of this egregious error, he is currently detained in El Salvador’s notorious Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT). On April 4th, a federal court judge ruled that the government must return Kilmar to the United States by April 7 at 11:59 pm. However, on April 7th Chief Justice John Roberts temporarily placed a hold on the lower court’s order while the U.S. Supreme Court reviews the case. The Supreme Court should do the right thing and uphold due process rights by ordering that Mr. Garcia be returned to the United States.

We find your administration’s actions to be wholly unacceptable. Your administration has not only disrupted the lives of his American wife and children—but also undermines the very foundations of our nation’s commitment to justice and due process. Every individual in our country is guaranteed the right to a fair hearing—a cornerstone of the Constitution and our legal system. By depriving Mr. Abrego Garcia of this right, the administration has not only inflicted irreparable harm on him but has also set a dangerous precedent that weakens the trust American families place in our immigration system. Immigration law provides multiple tools for law enforcement to remove individuals who pose a threat to our communities, but the nature of these deportations to El Salvador’s CECOT fall outside the bounds of the law.

Those responsible for this error must be held accountable. Mr. Abrego Garcia’s separation from his American wife and their young five-year-old child underscores how your indiscriminate and cruel immigration enforcement policies are wreaking havoc on American families, including an entire generation of American kids.² Inflicting profound emotional and psychological distress in this way, shatters the stability of a family unit that is so central to our communities and our nation.

¹ Watkins, A., & Feuer, A. (2025, April 1). *U.S. says deportation of Maryland man was an “administrative error.”* The New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/01/us/politics/maryland-man-deportation-error-el-salvador.html>

² Lisiecki, M., & Apruzzese, G. (2024, October 10). *Proposed 2024 mass deportation program would socially and economically devastate American families.* The Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS). <https://cmsny.org/publications/2024-mass-deportation-program-devastate-american-families-101024>

In light of these serious concerns, we demand that your administration ensures all individuals with deportation orders are given a fair day in court and take immediate steps to uphold the United States' power to **return Mr. Abrego Garcia home with his wife and children**. We also request within **30 days** of this letter:

- A briefing with the appropriate DHS and State Department officials able to provide a full and complete accounting of this “administrative error” occurred, and remedial steps to address this case, including diplomatic steps that have been taken to secure the release of Mr. Abrego Garcia.
- The total number of similar such “administrative errors” that have occurred since January 21, 2025, that have resulted in the arrest, detention, or removal of a noncitizen, including, where available the names and nationalities of the individuals affected, and whether those individuals have been removed and to what countries they were removed to.
- The names and nationalities of any immigrants who have been removed to El Salvador who have legal status in the United States, including Temporary Protected Status, parole, and any individual with a pending asylum hearing in the United States.
- The breakdown of the number of immigration enforcement encounters since January 21, 2025, involving individuals with temporary protected status, lawful permanent residence, and U.S. citizenship.
- Both the text and written overview of any diplomatic agreement with El Salvador on the transfers of immigrants from the United States to CECOT, including which immigrants are being selected for transfer to CECOT, the full list of nationalities that have been transferred to CECOT, and under what legal authorities they are being removed under.
- Both the text and written overview of any diplomatic agreement to remove United States citizens to CECOT, including the legal authorities underlying these potential transfers.

We respectfully request your prompt attention to this matter and await confirmation that concrete steps will be taken to remedy this injustice without delay.

Sincerely,



Adriano Espaillat
Chair
Congressional Hispanic Caucus



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



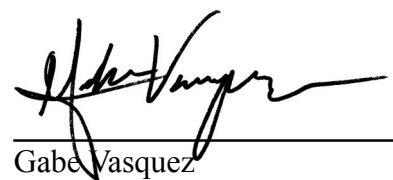
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



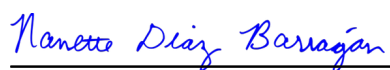
Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



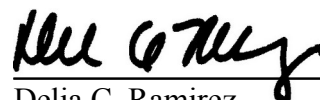
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



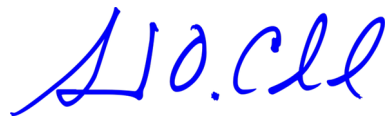
Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress



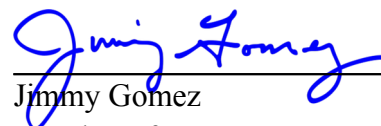
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



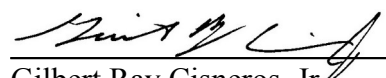
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