

**OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE**



**CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX**

**RESOLUTION DENOUNCING THE TERMINATION OF TEMPORARY  
PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITI**

**WHEREAS**, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a humanitarian protection established by Congress to safeguard individuals who cannot safely return to their home countries due to armed conflict, environmental disaster, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, Haiti was first designated for TPS following the catastrophic 2010 earthquake, and subsequent redesignations have reflected continued instability, recurring natural disasters, political turmoil, and escalating violence that persistently endanger the safety of Haitian nationals, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has announced the termination of Haiti's TPS designation, ending lawful protections and work authorization for Haitian nationals who were previously granted TPS; and

**WHEREAS**, this decision places hundreds of thousands of Haitian TPS holders nationwide at risk of losing legal status and employment authorization, despite many having lived and worked lawfully in the United States for years, raising families, contributing to local economies, and building deep community ties, including thousands residing in Massachusetts and the City of Boston; and

**WHEREAS**, assertions that Haiti no longer meets the statutory conditions for TPS are inconsistent with extensive reporting documenting worsening humanitarian conditions, including widespread violence, mass displacement, kidnappings, institutional collapse, and the severe breakdown of public safety and essential services; and

**WHEREAS**, Boston is home to one of the largest and most vibrant Haitian communities in the United States, with deep civic, cultural, faith-based, and economic roots, and the termination of TPS threatens profound harm to families, employers, schools, and community institutions throughout the city; and

**WHEREAS**, recent federal immigration actions affecting Haitian nationals, including restrictions on lawful travel and entry, reflect a broader pattern of increasingly punitive and destabilizing immigration policies that separate families, undermine economic participation, and disrupt professional, educational, and cultural exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to preserve Temporary Protected Status for Haitian nationals have spanned multiple sectors and levels of government, including congressional actions such as Representative Ayanna Pressley's use of a discharge petition, direct appeals to the White House urging a reversal of course, and statements from members of the business community underscoring the essential role Haitian TPS holders play in sustaining the workforce and broader economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Boston has a longstanding commitment to protecting immigrant communities, defending human rights, and opposing federal actions that undermine humanitarian protections, public safety, and community stability; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Boston City Council strongly condemns the termination of Temporary Protected Status for Haiti, recognizing it as a harmful and dangerous policy that disregards on-the-ground realities and threatens the lives, livelihoods, and futures of Haitian residents who call Boston home; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Boston City Council urges the Administration and Congress to reverse this decision, restore Haiti's TPS designation, and work collaboratively with local, state, and federal partners to ensure stability, safety, and dignity for all affected families, while standing in unwavering solidarity with Boston's Haitian community.