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Legal Aid Statement on the Extension and Re-Designation of Temporary Protected Status for Haitians

(NEW YORK, NY) - **The Legal Aid Society** issued the following statement in response to the Biden Administration’s extension and re-designation of Temporary Protected Status for Haitians who arrived in the United States on or before June 3, 2024, and the renewal of Special Student Relief for Haitian international students:

“The decision to extend and re-designate Haiti’s Temporary Protected Status will provide critical relief to more than 300,000 newly arrived Haitian asylum seekers, granting them the support and protections necessary to remain safely in the United States.

“We also laud the White House’s renewal of Special Student Relief for Haitian international students, which will allow certain Haitian students to request work authorization, work an increased number of hours while school is in session, as well as reduce their course load.

“These individuals have already experienced unimaginable hardships, and we applaud the Biden Administration for taking action to provide protection and stability for Haitians in this country.

“However, we urge the Biden Administration to institute a moratorium on deportations to Haiti. In the absence of a functioning government there, no one should be forced to return to Haiti. It is unjust and cruel to do otherwise.

“The Administration must take measures to protect all Haitians and consider similar relief options for other vulnerable noncitizens.”

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