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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Condemns Trump Administration's New Public Charge Rule

(NEW YORK, NY) — **The Legal Aid Society** issued the following statement in response to the Trump Administration's publication of its new Public Charge rule:

“The Legal Aid Society condemns the Trump Administration's latest attempt to weaponize the immigration system by expanding the impact of the Public Charge rule — a policy change designed to dramatically limit family-based immigration, sow fear, and deter immigrants from accessing the essential services they are legally entitled to receive.

“This rule will have devastating consequences for immigrant communities in New York City and across the country: families will forgo health care, nutrition assistance, housing support, and other critical benefits, needlessly placing children, families, and entire communities at greater risk.

“The Legal Aid Society successfully challenged the Trump Administration's first attempt to change the Public Charge rule in *Make the Road New York v. Cuccinelli*, working alongside immigrant rights advocates and legal partners to stop a similarly unlawful policy. We remain steadfast in our commitment to defending immigrant New Yorkers from attacks on their rights and are closely reviewing this latest rule while exploring all available legal options.”

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit law firm that exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 150 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of the people we serve and helps improve our communities.

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