

PETER T. KING

Member of Congress  
Second District, New York

339 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3202  
(202) 225-7896

1003 PARK BOULEVARD  
MASSAPEQUA PARK, NY 11762  
(516) 541-4225

For Suffolk County:  
(631) 541-4225

[pete.king@mail.house.gov](mailto:pete.king@mail.house.gov)  
[www.peteking.house.gov](http://www.peteking.house.gov)  
Twitter: @RepPeteKing



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3202

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
COUNTERTERRORISM AND INTELLIGENCE

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
CAPITAL MARKETS, SECURITIES & INVESTMENTS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT & INVESTIGATIONS

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen  
Secretary  
Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

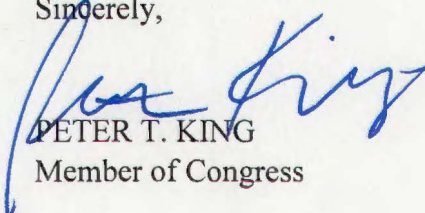
I write to express my support for an extension of Temporary Protect Status (TPS) for individuals from Nepal.

As you know, Nepal was originally designated for TPS in 2015 after an earthquake and its aftershocks devastated the country. This 7.8 magnitude earthquake killed nearly 9,000 people and left another 4 million homeless. Nepal's recovery has been painfully slow, both in terms of its infrastructure and its economy. The vast majority of Nepalese whose homes were destroyed remain homeless and the destruction of businesses and institutions have left millions without jobs.

The ongoing effects of the earthquake prevent Nepalese nationals in the U.S. from permanently returning to their country safely. I urge you to extend TPS status for these individuals so they can continue to contribute to our society and economy while their home country rebuilds.

I look forward to working with you on an extension in the coming weeks. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress

SCANNED/RECEIVED  
BY EXEC SEC  
2018 MAR 16 AM 11:59



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

March 30, 2018

The Honorable Peter T. King  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative King:

Thank you for your March 1, 2018 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Secretary Nielsen asked that I respond on her behalf.

I appreciate your interest in the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for Nepal. The Secretary of Homeland Security's authority to designate a country for TPS and to extend or terminate a country's existing designation is based upon specific statutory criteria. *See* Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) § 244(b). U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is principally responsible for advising the Secretary on TPS issues and implementing the program.

At least 60 days before the current expiration date for a TPS designation, the Secretary must review conditions in the foreign country and, after consultation with other appropriate federal agencies, determine whether the statutory conditions for TPS continue to be met. Under the INA, if the Secretary determines that the conditions for designation are no longer met with respect to a country, the Secretary is required to terminate the designation. *See* INA § 244(b)(1),(3).

The TPS designation for Nepal is due to expire on June 24, 2018. Prior to that date, the Secretary will re-evaluate the designation and, after consultation with appropriate federal agencies, determine whether an extension or a termination is warranted, in full compliance with the INA. The Secretary will fully re-evaluate the country conditions and any other factors necessary to determine whether the TPS designation should continue. That decision, once made, will be announced by the DHS, and a notice will be published in the *Federal Register*.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important matter. Should you require additional assistance, please have your staff contact the USCIS Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 272-1940.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Francis Cissna".

L. Francis Cissna  
Director