

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem:

We write with profound concern that the Department of State revoked the status of student visas in the United States and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested a number of students without any transparency or explanation of why they are being targeted.

Since the beginning of the current Administration, it has been reported that over 1,700 visas have been revoked, and 4,736 students have had their status terminated. Students have been picked up in the street— in some cases by plain clothed immigration agents in unmarked cars – and being held in detention facilities with no warning and limited information as to why they are being deported. These students should be entitled to the fundamental rights of due process and freedom of speech – just as our Framers intended.

The Administration's egregious policies have already had serious impacts at Maryland universities, including Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland College Park, and University of Maryland Baltimore County. These students are from different countries, in different programs, and have been in the U.S. for different lengths of time yet are suffering the consequences of the indiscriminate policies of this Administration without explanation. These students came to study in our great state in order to further and better their education at world class institutions but now are faced with the daily fear of arrest and deportation. With the federal court's ruling that ICE must restore the legal status of some of these students, it leaves open questions about the strategy around this program and the process the Administration is following. The Administration's current approach is unsustainable and concerning. It leaves students in limbo without certainty if and when their visas will be reinstated.

Just as troubling were the reports that ICE was manually terminating students' legal status in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), and in some cases, not even

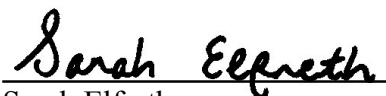
informing them or their respective institutions. Given all this uncertainty, we seek answers to the following questions:

1. How many student visas has the Department of State revoked from Maryland university students since January 20, 2025? Please include the type of visa being revoked.
2. Does the Department of State plan to reissue these visas, and how long will that process take?
3. How many Maryland students have had their legal status terminated in SEVIS by ICE since January 20, 2025, including: the specific legal status terminated and the legal authority for termination?
4. Since the latest action in federal court, ICE has said it is developing a policy that will provide a framework for SEVIS record terminations. When can we expect that framework?
5. What criteria or factors does the Department of State use to identify students for visa revocation?
6. What criteria does ICE use to identify students for termination of legal status in SEVIS?
7. Are students and their schools notified when the student's visa is revoked or their legal status in SEVIS is terminated?
 - a. If so, what is the process for notification?
 - b. If no notification is provided, what is the justification for withholding such information?

It is extraordinarily concerning that this Administration has weaponized ICE as a means to intimidate international students. We urge you to stop the haphazard revocation of student visas and ask for more transparency during this process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to your response.

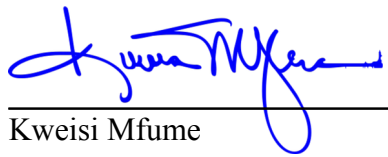
Sincerely,



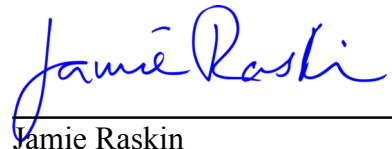
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



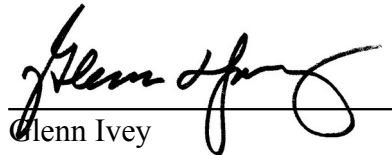
Steny H. Hoyer
Member of Congress



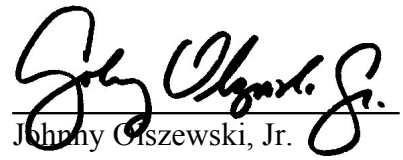
Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



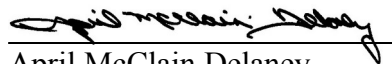
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Johnny Giszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress