The Trump Administration made radical changes to the “public charge” rule. The finalized “DHS public charge” rule is expected to result in declines of immigrant families’ access to the basics we all need to survive. This fact sheet describes the potentially impacted population in California.

**WHAT IS PUBLIC CHARGE?**

- A test used in the following immigration decisions:
  1. When applying for a visa to enter the country
  2. When applying for a Green Card
  3. As a Green Card holder coming back to the US after leaving the county for more than 6 months.
- The public charge tests asks if the person immigrating will **solely depend** on US government help to live.
- If you will need a lot of government help to survive, the U.S government may not approve the decision at hand.

**FINALIZED DHS CHANGES**

- Broadens the definition of “public charge” to include immigrants who use **one or more** government programs, **for more than 12 months** in a 36 month time frame. Such that receipt of 2 benefits in 1 month constitutes as 2 months.
- Includes **more** public benefit programs than previously considered. In addition to cash support (federal, state, local & tribal) for income maintenance (CalWORKs, SSI) and long term institutional care (nursing home or institutionalized care); now it also includes Medi-Cal*, CalFresh, Section 8 Voucher and project based assistance.
- Adds specific requirements to the public charge test for income, health, age, family status and even English proficiency.
- The rule is not retroactive
- The rule has been blocked and is not currently in effect.

*exceptions: emergency care, children under 21, pregnant women, mothers 60 days post-partum, state funded Medi-Cal expansion for DACA, and undocumented children and young adults.

**CA LEADERS SHOULD RESPOND BY**

- Learn what the rule means for immigrant communities
- Direct communities to information and legal resources
- Support ACR1: CA resolution to oppose the expansion of public charge
- Support HR 3222: No Federal Funds for Public Charge Act of 2019

**CALIFORNIA**

Approximately **6.8 million people**, including **2.4 million children**, may be impacted.

**NATIONWIDE**

Approximately **26 million people**, including **9.2 million children**, may be impacted.

**CALIFORNIA COUNTIES FACING THE GREATEST IMPACT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Potentially Impacted</th>
<th>Estimated Share of County Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>10,057,000</td>
<td>2,369,000</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>3,132,000</td>
<td>568,000</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>3,253,000</td>
<td>473,000</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>2,324,000</td>
<td>415,000</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bernardino</td>
<td>2,107,000</td>
<td>372,000</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT**

W/35% **DISENROLLMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Impact</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>CA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Federal Funds</td>
<td>$17.5 billion</td>
<td>$5 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Economic Ripple Effect in lost spending</td>
<td>$33.8 billion</td>
<td>$9.8 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Jobs lost</td>
<td>230,000 thousand</td>
<td>66,804 thousand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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QUESTIONS? PLEASE FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO:

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OCTOBER 2019