



PUBLIC CHARGE NPRM Talking Points for the Press

PIF Statement

- [Public Charge Proposal Puts Millions at Risk, Advocates Warn - Protecting Immigrant Families](#)

Messages

- **This proposal is about chaos and bias**
 - Without the Biden regulation's guardrails, DHS can base public charge denials on any health or social services program the administration wants
 - Or on any personal traits – like obesity or disability – the administration dislikes
 - And, going beyond the 2019 Trump policy, it contemplates considering family members' health or social services use or family medical history
 - It's a wealth test aimed at making lawful immigration available only to the rich
- **The proposal is part of the broader assault on lawfully present immigrants, US citizens in immigrant families, and the communities that welcome them**
 - OBBBA already makes even fewer lawfully present immigrants eligible for benefits
 - So most of the projected reduction in safety net program usage will likely come from US citizens – mostly children – in immigrant families
 - Like the 2019 Trump public charge policy, it uses chaos and threats to deter millions in immigrant families from using government services for which they qualify under federal law
 - And like the 2019 Trump policy, it threatens the nation's health and economic security
 - But in the context of the administration's reckless and lawless enforcement assault, the "chilling effect" could be even deeper
- **It's also part of the administration's campaign to close doors to lawful immigration**
 - Like \$100,000 visa fees and \$1M gold cards, or adding \$550 fees for work authorization and a 90% increase in TPS application fees
 - And like using "neighborhood checks" to harass naturalization applicants and their neighbors
 - And like a civics test that's more about MAGA ideology than US history
- **Congress must act to protect the nation from this known threat**
- **State policymakers must raise your voices and demand action from their congressional delegations**