

# Supreme Court Decision on TPS: What now?

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MIRA



On June 25, the Supreme Court issued a decision in *Mullin v. Doe*, which allows the government to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) protections for Haiti and Syria. The decision is also likely to have consequences for TPS protections for all other countries. However, the decision does not have an immediate impact, and **until further action is taken, TPS protections and work permits for Haitian and Syrian TPS holders remain valid.**

## Who are TPS holders in Massachusetts?

TPS is an immigration status that gives work permits and protection from deportation to people from specific countries when they are already in the United States when their country of origin is designated for the program. Countries can be designated for TPS if they are experiencing armed conflict or natural disaster that make it unsafe for people to be returned to that country.

As of March 2025, Massachusetts was home to nearly 45,000 TPS holders, with the largest group being Haitian TPS holders. TPS holders are part of our communities. They are neighbors, parents of US citizens, and an integral part of our economy. Roughly 2,000 nursing facility workers in Massachusetts are Haitian TPS holders. In 2023, TPS holders contributed \$134.2 million in local, state, and federal taxes.

## What did the Supreme Court actually decide?

The Supreme Court decided that courts don't have the authority to review decisions taken by the administration on TPS, and therefore they could not review whether the Trump administration's decision to end TPS for Haiti and Syria was proper. The plaintiffs in the case had also argued that administration's decisions to end TPS protections were motivated by racism, but the Court said they did not believe that to be the case since the administration has broadly ended TPS protections for many countries.

## What happens to TPS protections now?

The Supreme Court's decision does not make immediate changes to the TPS program. Before the decision can be acted upon, the judgment will be sent to the lower federal courts. This is a process that usually takes about 30 days. In the meantime, TPS protections for Haiti and Syria remain in place. We anticipate that in the coming weeks the administration will announce a formal end of the program, and information will be posted to the [government's website](#).

The Trump administration has also tried to end TPS protections for 11 other countries. Those terminations have been prevented from taking effect by federal courts. However, given the Supreme Court's decision, the administration will likely move to enforce termination of those programs as well.

Those who lose TPS are vulnerable to immigration detention and deportation, though people who have been in the US at least two years cannot be deported without first receiving a hearing in immigration court.

## What happens to TPS work permits now?

Until further action is taken by the lower courts and the administration, TPS work permits for Haitian and Syrian TPS holders remain valid. We know that the SAVE system, used by many employers to confirm work authorization for immigrants, indicated that employment authorization for Haitian TPS holders expired on July 1. This has now been updated to July 10. **However, work permits remain valid until implementation guidance from USCIS is issued regarding effective dates.**

In addition, many TPS holders may have work permits issued in connection with another immigration benefit or pending application. For example, many TPS holders may also have a work permit based on a pending asylum application. Those work permits remain valid and are not affected by the termination of TPS protections. **Employers should not assume that all TPS holders will lose work authorization when their TPS protections end.** More information for employers is available [here](#).

## I have TPS, what can I do now?

If you currently have TPS from any country, here are a few things you can do:

- ❑ **Keep informed** about changes to the TPS program: make sure your information is coming from trusted sources, like [MIRA's website](#) or a trusted community organization
- ❑ **Consult** an [experienced immigration legal representative](#) to evaluate and understand what options may be available
- ❑ Review **Know Your Rights** and family preparedness [resources](#) so you are prepared for interactions with immigration enforcement
- ❑ If you're not sure where to start or need information and referrals, you can call MIRA's Immigration Helpline at (508) 293-1871
- ❑ **Stay connected** to your local community-based organizations and reach out for [assistance](#)

## Where can I get legal help?

Visit [www.masslrf.org](http://www.masslrf.org) to find your local legal services agency. Legal services organizations have very limited capacity, so you may also want to consider hiring a [private immigration lawyer](#) for a consultation if you are able. Remember that only attorneys and federally recognized DOJ Accredited Representatives are [authorized](#) to provide legal advice.

## What can we do to advocate for TPS holders?

Continue to advocate for protections from deportation and a path to citizenship for TPS holders! Take action today by contacting your U.S. Senators and urging them to [support S.4814](#), which was already passed by the House of Representatives, to protect Haitian TPS holders.