



CIMH Policy & Advocacy Workgroup Update

MAY 2022

Our monthly infographics will be on pause for the summer.
Action alerts will be shared via the CIMH listserv.

Action Alert



ILLINOIS

- Medicaid expansions for undocumented adults ages 42+ are expected to begin July 3
- State budget did not include student mental health appropriations.
 - NAMI-IL is advocating for \$19M in the supplemental appropriation to voted on in veto session later this year

FEDERAL

- On April 25, our workgroup submitted a CIMH sign on letter for the DHS Public Charge comment period that included 6 organizations and 24 individuals
- NIJC is calling for Congress to end Title 42. Join their efforts by contacting Congress here.

Policies we are tracking

→ Title 42

- On April 26, DHS Secretary Mayorkas issued a memo with plans to end Title 42 expulsions by May 23rd
- On April 27, Louisiana Federal District Court Judge issued a restraining order against the termination of Title 42
- On May 23, Washington, DC Federal Judge rules for nationwide injunction; Title 42 remains in place

→ Immigration Enforcement

- Action events urge Congress to cut federal budget allocations for CBP & ICE
- April 26 DHS memo referenced 6 border security pillars:
 - increased resources to support border operations
 - processing capacity
 - efficiency at the border
 - post-arrival coordination with NGOs and state/local authorities to address increasing number of asylum seekers
 - 5 & 6 focus on enforcement outside the U.S. (ex: combat smuggling, coordinate with other Western countries to decrease migration to U.S.)
- For more, see Borderlines May 20 update and Georgetown Law Center report linked below

→ Work Permits

- USCIS temporary final rule increases automatic extension period for employment authorization to up to 540 days
- Only applies to eligible categories of immigrants and ends in October 2025

→ Asylum

- New asylum rule takes effect May 31 (first published to the federal registrar in Aug 2021)
- Designates USCIS as the lead agency for defensive asylum claims & expedited removal proceedings
- See Borderlines May 27 summary here
- Human Right First raised concerns about accelerated dockets
- In early May, several states filed a federal lawsuit to argue against asylum officers having power to grant/deny applications & raised concerns about determinations based on detention facility availability
- On May 26, Senate voted on resolution to block rule; vote failed 46-48.

→ MPP

- On April 26 SCOTUS heard oral arguments in *Biden v. Texas* challenging injunctions held by two lower courts
- Arguments focused on detention capacity, bond & parole proceedings, and that diplomatic agreements with Mexico needed to implement MPP are outside scope of current U.S. law
- Questions raised about the federal government's responsibility to detain immigrants.
- For more, see Borderlines May 6 update

→ DACA

- USCIS work permit extension DOES NOT apply to DACA
- Still awaiting news about Jan 2022 public comment period



Research and Data Corner

- USCIS demographic fact sheet on the population in IL and surrounding areas that are eligible to apply for citizenship
- Georgetown Law Center on Privacy & Technology report on ICE surveillance and data tracking techniques used for deportation.
- **May marks AAPI Heritage and Mental Health Awareness month!**
 - Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice podcast
 - Asian Mental Health Collective
 - Care Package by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

Local Spotlight

- NIJC offers free DACA renewal clinics every Thursday in June. Registration is required.

Let us know about any local research to spotlight in our September 2022 update.



Want more information?
Join our monthly workgroup meetings and see previous updates!

CIMH Policy & Advocacy Workgroup Co-Chairs:
Dana Rusch drusch1@uic.edu
Sarah Cartagena scartagena@latinopolicyforum.org