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The Florida Immigrant Coalition to Florida Senators & Congresspeople: Support the Inflation Reduction Act and Vote Down Failed Trump Immigration and Border Policy Amendments

Florida - [The Inflation Reduction Act](#) is transformative legislation that will fight climate change, promote economic fairness, increase healthcare security, and reduce prescription drug prices – all things that Floridians desperately need.

However, there is a possibility that even though Americans of all stripes are hurting through inflation, this much needed legislation will come up short due to poison pill amendments on unrelated immigration and border provisions. If enacted, they would codify cruel and failed Trump policies.

Trump's immigration failures have been widely documented. In a report by [Forbes](#), it was laid out how during the Trump administration, between FY 2016 and FY 2019, apprehensions at the Southwest border increased from 408,870 to 851,508—a rise of more than 100%. In an explainer article, [Vox](#) shared the fact that public health officials weren't the ones pushing the policy; the effort was led by Stephen Miller, a former senior adviser to Trump and the chief architect of his immigration policy, which focused on reducing overall immigration levels to the US. Even before the pandemic, Miller had been looking for opportunities to use Title 42 to expel migrants.

Tessa Painsor, Co-Executive Director of the Florida Immigrant Coalition stated, *“Donald Trump’s immigration policies failed in all aspects and were enacted at a great human cost, particularly for parents and children separated at the border. During our fierce fight through his heinous presidency, it became clear to us that the cruelty of his policies were not by chance, but by design. Migrants at the border have been denied their*

international legal right to seek asylum; not to mention the unfair and inequitable treatment of Black migrants who are abused and vilified at much higher rates. The lawmakers that are willing to stand in the way of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which would support workers, lower energy costs, & make healthcare affordable for families by pushing poison pill, anti-immigrant amendments, are more interested in playing politics than finding solutions for some of today's most pressing matters. We urge the Florida delegations to stand together and reject the amendments for the well-being of all Floridians."

Yareliz Mendez-Zamora, Federal Campaign Lead for the Florida Immigrant Coalition shared,

"We are fervently calling upon all Congressional lawmakers that represent our state to vote down anti-immigrant amendments in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. Instead of passing amendments that hurt our families, we urge lawmakers to focus on delivering this important bill that lowers the cost of healthcare and prescription drugs, and makes much needed progress on climate change. It's sad and infuriating to see human beings used as pawns in a political game. This is a historic, breakthrough bill that would help millions of Florida families by lowering energy costs and making health care affordable. The provisions on this important legislation should not be poisoned by ill-intentioned amendments that seek to stall or even stop the passing of this bill using immigrants as a bargaining chip. This is not the time to play politics!"

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